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BULLETIN

A of the AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

APRIL-1952

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Mr. and Mrs. Sydney B. Mitchell visit in the Nies garden. Eric Nies (left) and
Stafford Jory (right).
from kodachrome by corliss

Below: Professor Stafford Jory watches, while Eric Nies points out a new spuria to Pro-
fessor Sydney B. Mitchell.
from kodachrome by corliss



FOREWORD

In this issue of the Bulletin there is an account of the breeding of iris *Aureonympha* written by Edith Hardin English. Mrs. English closes her account with the following admonishment to breeders of iris: "I cannot emphasize too strongly the importance of working with species rather than with plants that have resulted from so many crosses and recrosses that their genetic characters are a hodge-podge." It is quite a coincidence that at this moment our attention is drawn to the work of Eric Nies whose effort with the spurias is indeed a great achievement. To produce his beautiful flowers Mr. Nies began at the very beginning. He began with known quantities, the species themselves.

Far too many of our enthusiastic members who cross iris and raise seedlings think that to achieve success they must but purchase the very latest novelties and cross them. No doubt this is true to a certain extent. If one wishes to reproduce certain frills and furbelows in but another variation, the quickest way is to cross Frill and Furbelow. In doing so, however, current frailties and shortcomings are brought down another generation and added to our woes. Little good has been added to the common weal.

Our tall bearded novelties seem dangerously near to becoming in-bred weaklings. They need to be coddled; diseases are much too prevalent. They are fast becoming subjects for a specialized show spot rather than a suitable plant for the perennial border. The slightest shading by the foliage of adjacent plants is usually enough to cause our most prized novelty to fall victim to a bacteria common to most soils. In nature the wild plant must be able to withstand shading, bacteria and fungi, for it cannot pick its neighbor as to kind or position. Surely a good heavy dose of *I. pallida*, for instance, would help the stamina and hardiness of our chosen flower.

In the breeding of beardless irises the surface has hardly been scratched. Who could possibly foretell the variations possible from crossing the Nies spurias with the little publicized members of the spuria subsection such as *I. graminea*, *I. halophila*, *I. farreri*, *I. sintenisii* or *I. songarica*? Has anyone thought of the possibilities from such a cross as Eric the Red x *I. forrestii*. Or of Tycoon x *I. wilsonii*? There are scores of such combinations possible which if successful will add much both to our store of fine flowers and our knowledge.

Then there is a certain thrill connected with creating something from scratch that you can never get from merely following the beaten path.

What is needed is a few more men such as Nies, Washington, Mitchell and the Sassés—men with vision, patience and perseverance.

In Memoriam—Eric E. Nies

MARION R. WALKER, FRANK SEWARD WALKER, Calif.

On January 29, 1952, the American Iris Society lost another of its great men with the passing of Eric Nies, horticulturist and iris breeder, in Hollywood.

Eric E. Nies was born in 1884 at Saugatuck, Michigan, one of thirteen children. His parents had come from Holland to join a Dutch settlement near the city of Holland. His father was a hardware merchant. Young Eric worked for some years, Saturdays and after school hours in their store.

Mr. Nies attended Michigan State College, where he was an outstanding pitcher in intercollegiate baseball. He graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science. Later he took advanced work in botany and education at the University of Southern California. He was a member of Phi Sigma, the botany honor society.

In 1908 he married Grace Perry of Charlotte, Michigan, who survives him. Five years later they moved to California with their family and thus began a long career of teaching in Los Angeles.

He gave of his best to the young people in his classrooms, where his penetrating wit and wholesome sense of humor endeared him to his many pupils.

Mr. Nies was vitally interested in civic affairs and conscientiously studied history and government. He deeply enjoyed the best in music and was an outstanding singer.

His interest in botany led to his becoming an outstanding landscape architect. He had an exceptional love of beautiful flowers and plants especially the delicately textured ones such as the bearded iris.

The 1939 Edition of the Check List describes him as a collector and hybridizer of iris "for twenty years"; not many men today can claim a longer period of study in the field. The twenty years, and those that followed, have brought to the world a steady succession of headlines along the path that Eric Nies chose to pioneer, the hitherto almost neglected spuria section. Bronzspur, Saugatuck, Russet Flame, Dutch Defiance, Fifth Symphony, Two Opals, Color Guard, Morgenstraal, Cherokee Chief—these are but a few of the varieties that have poured out from the back yard up on Kingsley Drive in Hollywood. I am told that the Nies garden this past year contained some of the greatest advances to date in the spurias; knowing the keen discrimination with which he conducted his hybridizing work, these last of the Nies selections will surely attest to his outstanding position amongst American breeders. Perhaps not as widely known are his superlative Douglasiana introductions, Orchid Sprite and, more recently, Amiguita.

Few other breeders can boast of his versatility, for tall bearded and Louisiana varieties also bear his name.

Eric Nies was one of the first members, and was two separate times President, of the Southern California Iris Society, the organization that has done so much to cement iris interest in the Southland. He served as Regional Vice-President of the American Iris Society during the forties. He was for many years active with the Hollywood Garden Club, and in that capacity was instrumental in establishing the annual Hollywood Iris Show, now in its thirteenth year. Up to the last, he maintained an active interest in local iris affairs in spite of his precarious health; only a few weeks before his passing he sat with others of the local society over plans for this year's iris show. He was looking forward to 1956, when the AIS is scheduled for Los Angeles, with the keenest anticipation, and had been exhorting the local growers to place more emphasis in their plantings on the native varieties for that event.

Eric Nies has become a monument in Southern California iris circles; the future will not be quite the same without his incisive, sometimes acidulous, but always pertinent, guidance. He has, in his work, sketched the dimensions of a goal, and it remains for a younger generation of hybridizers, all of them cherishing the memory of his friendship and assistance, to bring that goal to attainment.

BREEDERS—PLEASE NOTICE

Certain original records concerning registrations made by Mr. Robert E. Allen, formerly Registrar of the American Iris Society, have been lost. In order that the new Registrar Mrs. George D. Robinson may be able to release present and future name applications it will be necessary for DUPLICATE records to be made.

Therefore all breeders who have received approvals from Mr. Allen **for the year 1951** please mail completed registration form to

Mrs. George D. Robinson,
167 East Hamilton Lane,
Battle Creek, Mich.,

and in addition, please advise of any approvals pending, which are being held upon the authority of Mr. Allen. Such approvals are hereby declared null and void unless re-instated before May 1st, 1952. Your registration forms sent to this office will be returned to you immediately.

(Signed) MRS. GEO. D. ROBINSON, *Registrar*

Prof. Sydney Mitchell
June 24, 1878 - Sept. 21, 1951

TOM CRAIG, Calif.

Prof. Sydney Mitchell's iris, his books, and many articles are familiar to all of us. They are so basic and their influence so general you could not imagine the development of modern iris without them. There are many fortunate men and women who would find it difficult to imagine their world without the influence of Sydney Mitchell, even though they were denied the privilege of so closely sharing our common interest in iris.

All of us look back over our years in school, in colleges, and later in the rough early years of finding our place in a less sheltered society. The picture that forms in our mind is warm but rather blurred. We concentrate our vision so steadily on what, in time, is near at hand, that the background fades from focus; and the mass of casual acquaintances, professors, and long time friends blend together. Much eagerness for life comes from reliving the best of the past through these pictures. For memory so focuses on the good that, with passing of time, even war or grave illness first bring to mind the small rich accents contrasted against the heavy greys that dominate the picture.

All through life, how grateful we are for the few strong souls who stand out of the mass for their complete good will and stimulating interests. Happily when we think of them our picture becomes animated. They step forward and we watch the familiar expressions and gestures that accent their words.

Great teachers like Sydney Mitchell fortunately do not confine teaching solely to an appointed subject, to an appointed time, or to an appointed group of students. How many librarians now love gardens, and from student days recall some special flower pointed out with an inquiring smile? How clearly some of us, who were never formally his students, remember long discourses on plants and plantsmen of the past; and what, due to them, might be possible for the future? These vivid memories of Sydney Mitchell will be shared by many of us.

The extent of the influence of Sydney Mitchell's work in horticulture would be hard to estimate. His writings are studied by almost all of us who breed plants. His work with William Mohr in iris breeding is so basic few modern iris do not have some of their iris in the pedigree. He imported many plants he did not find time to use; but he freely gave them to others for their work. In bulbous iris, for example, he imported *Iris Fontanesi* and pointed out to Carl Salbach how important this might prove in breeding. Mr. Salbach made these crosses and sold the resultant hybrids to Jan de Graeff of the Oregon Bulb

Farms, who is introducing them and breeding further from them. The rich midnight blue variety National Velvet is one of these. Frank Reinelt has, in past, used Sydney Mitchell's primroses in his breeding of the well known and superior Pacific Strain polyanthus primrose.

Sydney could not remember when he was not interested in plants. In 1886, when he was a boy of eight, he was growing plants from seed. His brother, his two sisters and his parents did everything possible to help and encourage this healthful activity. Fascination for flowers increased each year and the interest in perennial flowers soon became dominant.

So absorbed was he in flowers that work became only a device to obtain money to buy plants. As a high school boy he often went hungry, for even his lunch money went to buy plants.

By the time he was enrolled as an English student at McGill University, iris growing had become his specialty. The gardener there had an outstanding collection and gave Sydney many plants. His brother furnished growing space in his back yard for what was to become at that time the best amateur iris collection in America. An M. A. from McGill, and then a year's study at the New York State Library School in Albany qualified Sydney for the job he accepted in the library of McGill University; and with this job came the needed funds to buy iris plants of the finest varieties then offered by nurserymen.

Accepts Stanford Offer

From this time Sydney Bancroft Mitchell was torn between his two careers. He resigned at McGill and worked as a propagator at \$6.00 per week for the Bay State Nurseries, North Abington, Mass. After a short employment there, the boredom of routine rooting of cuttings became apparent, and an offer of employment by the Stanford University Library came as a most welcome escape from this tedium. More important, with this work came sufficient income to indulge his love of gardening.

With the excellent outlook at Stanford he felt in a position to marry Rose F. Michaels. "Buddy," as he always called her, was a cherished acquaintance of his teaching days at McGill where she was one of his students. There never was a more fortunate marriage. From this time, Sydney Mitchell became the captain of a team that worked so closely and ably together that there could be no other outcome than great achievement. In all his work she shared, acting as secretary for his writing and for his hybridizing. No one could have been finer and more helpful to the many friends and students who came to Sydney for advice and help. Her knowledge of plants is encyclopedic and at the same time as earthy as a peasant's. Together in the Berkeley Hills

they built the most pleasant informal garden I know. It especially featured iris, daffodils, and flowering trees.

His garden at Stanford and his early garden in Berkeley I never saw. At Stanford he grew many beardless iris including *Kaempferis* along with all the bearded iris varieties he had grown earlier at Montreal; from his garden there, he was sent one plant of each variety.

In 1911 Sydney moved to Berkeley to head the purchasing Department of the University of California Library. There the Mitchells built a home on a steep hillside lot on Oxford Street. With them went their iris collection. The steep garden slopes found an ideal setting for a rock garden with which they experimented extensively. This interest continued and was expressed in small areas in their later Woodmont Avenue garden to which they moved in 1923. Here, near a crest of the Berkeley Hills in the rich sod that sloped gently to the north before breaking abruptly into Wildcat Canyon, they continued to grow a fine lot of rock garden plants; an extensive collection of *Helianthemums* grown from English seed; *Nepeta mussini* handsomely used with the iris; many other Mediterranean herbs and small shrubs tucked into nicely chosen spots. I remember Buddy showing me, on the small rocked-in slopes that held the terraces of their rose garden, a fine collection of prostrate woody perennials. Many plants I had read about but never seen in California like small prostrate *Daphnes*. On the gentle shady slopes under the evergreens grow the finest *Iris innominatas* I have seen; while under the flowering fruit trees grow an astonishingly varied and fine collection of *Iris Douglasiana* containing numerous clones finer than most of the named and introduced varieties. The masses of bulbous plants displayed there were beyond belief. I've never seen finer daffodils or more variety and the best of them were seedlings of Mitchell's and Reinelt's (who worked with Mitchell's seedlings). Huge blocks of scillas in shadier spots; and South African *Irids*-*Sparaxis*, *streptanthers*, *gladiolus* species, etc., grew in the more open areas. Small plantings of a goodly share of dutch bulbs of all sorts would be tucked here and there but only for local interest rather than more display. Far back in the garden on the steeper slopes was the one large successful Herbaceous peony garden I have seen in California. Annuals grew here and there too; but not, I understand, anything to compare with the unmatched variety and quality one saw years before in the Mitchell garden on Oxford street. At that time they were importing the best seed of rarer things from all over the world, especially from England.

That Woodmont Avenue garden was created for iris and daffodils and with no elaborate care they displayed themselves like nowhere else. There was never a killing frost, but always a cold enough winter to give a fine mass display rather than the spotty showing frequent with

too warm winters. The slope was ideal, the sod was rich and deep, and the garden was protected from strong sun and wind. Buds opened slowly, so flowers lasted unusually long and grew to an immense size. Faded or sunburned flowers were practically never seen. Never have I seen iris stems so tall and graceful. Sydney's interest in breeding for fine stems was a dominant interest and this garden certainly showed this character off to advantage.

Sydney knew what he and the iris wanted, for he had grown them under highly varied conditions. He had lived a dozen years in Berkeley and knew that area and where to look for better growing conditions. In 1919 Dr. Stillman Berry had introduced him to William Mohr, the most important event in his horticultural career. In his own words: "Everything in William Mohr's garden was better than anything else I had ever seen or heard of." Iris growing became even more important to the Mitchells and their search for better growing grounds soon started. Careful search, not accident, located them on Woodmont Avenue.

William Mohr was a modest individual working quietly and almost alone, but rumor of his work was spreading. Dr. Berry had heard of him and his hybridizing and was determined to look him up. He made a special trip north from his Redlands home to find him and he asked Sydney to join him in his search. From their accounts, this meeting was a revelation. Mohr was hybridizing a wide variety of plants: grains, colocortus, beardless iris, Regelias, Oncocyclus, and especially bearded hybrids of *Iris mesopotamica*.

For the Mitchells it was but a short distance to the Mohr Ranch at Mt. Eden and they quickly grew from frequent and welcome visitors to the closest friends of the Mohrs. They planned breeding programs and both men started breeding from the early Mohr crosses. Mr. Mohr was too reticent to realize the importance of his work and did not consider anything he had good enough for commerce. After much of Sydney's able persuasion he agreed to start naming and releasing his seedlings.

Together the men made the selection and chose names. Sydney published a small catalog carefully describing the plants and distributed it to iris fanciers and breeders. Mitchell's selection of their Woodmont Avenue one-acre home-site was in part to have a suitable location to display and distribute these new hybrid iris they had started to sell. They named their garden the Campos Altos Iris Gardens and distributed their catalog under that name—and so the Mitchells were started in the iris business.

This same year, 1923, Mr. and Mrs. Mohr lost their lives in an automobile accident. Sydney alone knew well what William Mohr had done and planned to do, for they had been planning the breeding program together. He brought to flowering all the unflowered seedlings

and seeds and selected the best of what was just flowered. From this huge lot of previously unselected material came the famous Mohr-Mitchell iris including the Dykes Medal winner, San Francisco, and such famous iris parents as Purissima, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, and the oncocyclis hybrid, William Mohr.

During all this period Mr. Mitchell carried on his work as purchasing agent for the University of California Library. He traveled widely in America and Europe and visited the important iris breeders. He corresponded with most of them and gave much time and help to younger hybridizers. Sydney liked to tell about how a young gardener came into his garden in 1929, sent there to purchase a few iris plants for his employer. This young fellow, Frank Reinelt, was a Czech immigrant who had taken work on a Palo Alto estate until he could establish his own growing and hybridizing business. His exceptional energy and intelligence attracted Sydney who encouraged his frequent visits. Soon Frank was spending much of his limited spare time with the Mitchells. Sydney had long experience growing plants and had read extensively on horticulture and plant breeding. Reinelt was trained in European schools as a horticulturist and had a fine theoretical training in plant breeding.

Discussion with Reinelt Productive

There were long and frequent hours of discussion mutually stimulating that led to further study and hybridizing plans by both men. This relation continued through the years with plants developed by both men freely passed back and forth for both enjoyment and use in breeding. To this meeting are due many of the results evident in the Mitchell iris and daffodils and in the Reinelt begonias, delphiniums, primroses, and daffodils.

Frank Reinelt is the most widely known of Mitchell's many informed students, but many libraries especially in California are fortunately staffed by his students. For during the first world war and the war absence of the head librarian, Sydney became Acting Librarian. He used his position to start courses in library instruction, doing much of the teaching himself. There was no good school of Librarianship in the West and Sydney, eager to see one established at the University, saw this opportunity to make a start in this direction. Finally in 1926 the Graduate School of Librarianship was established at the University of California with a good teaching staff and with Prof. Sydney Mitchell as director.

During his travels, a year of advanced study at Yale, and periods of teaching at the University of Michigan and University of Chicago he visited all the better nurseries and horticulturists nearby and brought

back plants to his Berkeley garden. He imported the finest fuschias from England and France. Much of the fuschia breeding in California started from this stock and he was a leading figure in the formation of the American Fuschia Society. He also imported many bulbs including fine English daffodil hybrids. He bought Fortune when it was \$75.00 per bulb. Most of the hybridizing interest and activity with daffodils in California and Oregon was started or stimulated by Sydney Mitchell's work. He was for many years very active in the California Horticultural Society, serving both as President and Editor of the Journal of the California Horticultural Society. He wrote extensively for it and many other Journals and Magazines including American Iris Society Bulletin, Sunset, Ladies' Home Journal, English Iris Society Yearbook, American Daffodil Yearbook, English daffodil Yearbook. His books include Gardening in California, From a Sunset Garden, Your California Garden and Mine, Iris for Every Garden.

Whenever anyone complimented Sydney on his achievements he would say: "What I would like to be remembered for is that I saved the work of William Mohr." He considered William Mohr the most important single contributor to the breeding of modern iris. He did all he could to save it and all he could to make it available to other workers. When he had the commercial distribution of the Mohr-Mitchell line well established he sold the business to Carl Salbach. He did not want to be so involved with selling that he would not have time for his two chosen careers. However he continued to distribute iris, for he was always sending breeding stock to workers all over the world. He always made you feel what an opportunity it was to work with so important a breeding line and he was unbelievably generous with time and plants. He went to great trouble to send me pollen of early blooming iris from his late flowering garden so that I could have it fresh to use with my latest flowers that would then be in bloom. I'm especially grateful for several lots of Capitola pollen that produced some of my best hybrids. I was particularly eager for it, and I know he enjoyed realizing William Mohr had imported the key parent Gatesii. Sydney himself had saved the resultant hybrid and named it for William Mohr. Sydney then supplied Frank Reinelt with the iris William Mohr and with Ib-mac, the two parents from which he bred Capitola. He made me a part of a line of workers in my interest and confidence in the importance of this breeding line that could not be developed in the lifetime of one man. William, Mitchell and Reinelt had all imported quantities of Oncocyclus hybrids and bred extensively from them. Mitchell had selected and named a number of Mohr's oncocyclus hybrids including Morera, Azulado, and Bellorio, but the important developments have all come through the one line. Only those who have seen current seedbeds have any real idea of the great quality that now is

emerging from this one line; and there are many other lines of breeding coming from the Mohr-Mitchell iris.

Sydney looked upon plant breeding as a long term international effort in which individuals from all over the world should co-operate and add generation after generation to a real human achievement. He made me feel a real part of this and more particularly a part of a special work started by William Mohr and carried on by himself. Sydney generously gave flowers and plants of seedlings for further encouragement with this work. How greatly I valued these and the introduced varieties is obvious from their frequent occurrence in my pedigrees.

There is much discussion as to which of the Mohr-Mitchell iris has contributed most as a parent to modern iris. *Purissima* is usually considered first. Almost all modern blue and white iris come from it and probably many of the fine pinks and creams as well. The iris William Mohr is sometimes considered the best, but I think its great importance still lies in the future. It is very difficult to breed so its importance is still to be realized and will come through its many descendants that are proving more and more fertile and useful.

Conquistador Key Parent

Sydney considered Conquistador the key parent and easily most important of Mohr's hybrids. A first generation hybrid of *Mesopotamica* crossed on *Juniata*, it had the lack of hardiness of its male parent but also the elegant stature, size and better texture and substance. Not only does *Purissima* and all its many derivatives come directly from Conquistador, but practically all modern white ground plicatas and some yellow ground plicatas. Conquistador is used far back in many more of the blues and whites. *Wambliska* came from the same cross that gave *Purissima*. Of course *Wambliska* and hence Conquistador is not only in the pedigree of many blues and whites but in many of the pink bud iris and some of the finest yellows like *Golden Fleece*. Conquistador has been in the pedigree of many of the fine near black iris, especially those outstanding for height substance and branching. I have raised extremely tall smooth and fine variegata-neglectas out of Conquistador lines and some near *amoenas*, but have been so occupied with other lines they are still standing in five-year-old seedbeds. There also have come reds of great substance and stature but so far a little coarse and I have not had time to work with them further. Crossed to Onco hybrids and back to the pinks I have had pink bud iris with Conquistador stature. It may be closer to pink buds than we thought. Sydney felt it could not be over-rated as a parent.

Think how widely the Mohr-Mitchell seedlings are involved in

modern iris. Sydney early made them available to Prof. Essig and his famous blues, whites, and yellows are dominantly derived from them, including Dykes Medalist Sierra Blue and the ever popular Shining Waters. Mohr-Mitchell iris are dominant in the Salbach iris. The Sass brothers used them, and in many of their most important iris you will find use of Mohr-Mitchell iris—and one cannot overestimate the importance of these Sass iris. Besides Purissima and Conquistador, Marian Mohr and Santa Barbara are widely present in pedigrees of all our current iris, especially blues. The iris William Mohr is so famous a breeder a whole group of iris is now referred to as “The Mohrs.” Sydney himself later became interested in breeding large yellows and plicata varieties. The yellows started with Alta California and included California Gold, Happy Days, Naranja, Natividad and Fair Elaine. In their day there was none better. Fair Elaine is still tops after 14 years in Commerce! As parents these yellows were widely used. Mrs. Whiting’s Cloth of Gold, Rocket, and Technicolor and other outstanding developments from these all go back in part to these Mitchell yellows. Naranja has given me fine reds including Crimson Glaze.

Sacramento was important in breeding plicatas in England. Naranja has been widely used in plicata breeding with fine success. Bali Belle, Precious, Oklahoma, Occidental, Love Affair, Lovelace, Fairy Foam, Wayfarer, and Belle Brunette, Edith Laura and Born Yesterday are all good and distinct plicata types of recent Mitchell origin. They are all good parents.

Santa Cruz is little known but a unique and extremely handsome veined variegata type.

Everywhere in iris gardens one finds Mohr-Mitchell iris and they are a dominant influence in iris breeding throughout the world. Sydney’s part in all this is far more than he claimed, his own breeding was more than enough to give him a prominent place in horticulture. What he had done for others cannot be over-valued and he certainly made the most of William Mohr’s work that might well have been completely lost without him.

How much we will miss Sydney Mitchell! How good it is to have known him. He has left all of us much that is fine to remember.

CHECK YOUR ADDRESS!

Unless notified by you to the contrary, your NAME and ADDRESS will appear in the 1953 Membership List exactly as it is printed on the envelope which brought you this Bulletin. If there is any change, advise us immediately.

Introductions by

WILLIAM MOHR, MOHR-MITCHELL, MITCHELL

List prepared by HAROLD I. JOHNSON, Calif.

1925	Rubeo	1944
William Mohr	Santa Clara	none
Santa Barbara	1932	1945
1926	Natividad	Advance Guard
Frieda Mohr	Ronda	Good Fortune
El Capitan	1933	Occidental
Primavera	California Gold	Oklahoma
1927	Sunol	Old Lace
Alameda	Portola	Precious
Aurifero	1934	Santa Cruz
Don Quixote	Happy Days	Yuma
Fortuna	Peacemaker	1946
Los Angeles	Rosy Asia	Bali Belle
Purissima	1935	Contra Costa
Shasta	Naranja	Love Affair
San Francisco	Suntan	Mariposa Mia
1928	Taos	Wayfarer
Bonita	1936	1947
Colusa	Dark Horse	none
Conchita	Golden Bear	1948
Estrallon	Bridal Veil	Fairy Foam
Morera	1937	Lovelace
San Luis Rey	Charm	1949
Senorita	Sunburst	Bargain Day
1929	1938	Born Yesterday
Monterey	Aida	Dark Tower
Sacramento	Fair Elaine	Edith Laura
San Diego	1939-1940	La Playa
Sonoma	none	Mount Diablo
1930	1941	Raspberry
Oruga	Aphra	Supreme
Padre	1942	Silver Tower
Querida	none	Sylista
San Rafael	1943	1950
Santa Fe	Misty Rose	none
1931	Santa Rosa	1951
Elegante	Sorrel Top	Mrs. Sydney Mitchell

Sydney B. Mitchell—An Appreciation

R. S. STURTEVANT, Tenn.

That Prof. Mitchell should have been spared to finish his recent book *Irises for Every Garden* is certainly a boon to all members of Society if not to all gardeners.

In 1920, within six months of the organization of the AIS, he wrote, "Except for Mr. Mohr and Mrs. Dean I know more than anyone else out here, I suspect, about irises and feel the need of contact with other enthusiasts that know more." This was an indication, both of his eager quest for knowledge and his will to help other enthusiasts, which he more than fulfilled through the years.

In going through the files, I am amazed at how few actual contacts I had as a foundation upon which I built so strong a feeling of admiration and dependence. I met Prof. Mitchell and his charming companion-wife only a few times when he was enroute elsewhere and stayed at Wellesley Farms with my sister. In later years but few have responded so reliably AND promptly to an editor's request. I am certain he is now rated as one of the leading horticultural writers in the country as he had the ability to think clearly and express his thoughts in a most readable style. (One felt his charm and his deep love for growing things and what interest therein might mean to each of us in this troubled world.)

Probably few current members realize that the AIS started through the initiative of one man, John C. Wister, now Director of the Arthur Hoyt Horticultural Foundation at Swarthmore, Pa. His contacts had a broad basis, and while in France he visited many iris specialists in Europe and also wrote those in America. These interested persons provided the names which led to an organization meeting at the New York Botanical Garden, with an attendance of 70 and expressions of interest from some 250 enthusiasts on both continents. Among these was Sydney B. Mitchell, and his first expression of interest led me to keep him in touch with organization plans and developments—including a first rough draft of a constitution (to which certain of his comments seem to me still applicable after thirty years.)

"What we want is a parent body to make plans, outline work and direct the regional organizations in America and to get the co-operation of specialists all over the world. This national organization might very well have charge of the exhaustive collection to be planted at the N. Y. Botanical Garden, for presumably nomenclature had best be studied there, but I have always felt that Regional Test Gardens were also essential, for the iris is grown all over the continent and no one part is best adapted to all species nor even garden varieties. In our regional



Nies variety Michigan State bloomed well in the garden of your Editor in 1951.

tests we should not want complete collections as I see no reason why it should bother with varieties that Mrs. Dean and I have both tried and discarded ***** but we should have a chance to try out the best of all growers who care to send us for test and particularly seedlings which on account of their parentage are likely to be of value here but not in N. Y.—especially the seedlings Mr. Mohr and Mr. Berry are raising with *I. mesopotamica* as one parent or the onco-pogon crosses both are interested in.

“All flower shows and all monies provided for special exhibits should be the concern of the Regional organization as the national Society cannot afford to dissipate its energies or funds on what must necessarily be affairs of local interest. I do not believe that passing the Annual Show around so as to give different sections a chance at the prizes is any adequate answer.

“I am especially pleased to find you have provided for an associate member class at a nominal fee for we need to reach a large group of somewhat interested gardeners who, with education, will be a real help to the interest in the flower.” (The idea was voted down in June 1920 though similar suggestions are again in the air. R. S. S.)

Dr. Mitchell had been in the East and had seen Mr. Wister and Dr. Gleason, so his comments on this first draft were made almost on the date of the organization meeting, though he had already enlisted the co-operation of the University of California for a Test Garden.

My next—and almost my last—letter from the doctor-librarian was an acceptance of his appointment as a Regional Vice-President. Since the AIS was an established concern his real interests were diverted to the work of William Mohr and the breeding which developed into a continuing correspondence with Grace Sturtevant. His first letter to her (1920) told her that he and Dr. Berry, an F² protege of his, had first suggested Mr. Mohr write her about his work and that he himself was going to work with Mr. Mohr in the distribution of his seedlings in 1922, certain of which Miss Sturtevant was introducing by 1924. “That Marian Mohr should be sold only with the warning that it was of Miss Willmott X Carthusian parentage and hence might dislike northern conditions”—a most typical proviso from such partners in introduction, as was a later argument that prices must be low in the manner that Dr. Stout introduced his *Hemerocallis* splendors. Mr. Mohr, however, was still on his 500 acre family ranch in a salubrious climate while Miss Sturtevant had hardly an acre of sunny, gravelly soil in Massachusetts at the time.

Their association led to Mr. Mohr's executor permitting Prof. Mitchell to carry on the owner's breeding after his death in 1923, and explains the familiar (Mohr-Mit.) attached to so many names in our Check List as Mr. Mitchell was not willing to so publicize Campos

Altos Gardens which was his new home-nursery in Berkeley.

It is interesting to note that at this time (1923) there was a free exchange of both information and plants from East to West though it was not until the 1930's that the exchange of pollen had been proved possible. The sterility studies of Dr. Stout were still in the future as was the whole conception of chromosomes-genes etc. so that all were guessing as far as their experience had permitted.

In the succession of letters devoted mostly to breeding suggestions there are occasional sidelights on personal plans and moves: e. g. in 1922 there was a hope of attending the first (and last) International Iris Conference in Paris; in 1924 he came East to attend a conference of Librarians and spent a week-end with us at Wellesley Farms, well after the flowering season unfortunately but his visit brought an even more extensive exchange of guesses as to good parents to use. After Mr. Mohr's death he was most anxious to fulfill any promises made as to sending us "good parents." He tried to discover the results of a batch of seeds that Miss Sturtevant had sent on from M. Denis (in France) who had been the first to bring *I. Ricardi* to our attention as a new possibility. Denis' *Ricardi* x *Her Majesty* thrived in Berkeley for the most part though few became at all popular elsewhere in the country.

Flamingo Pink Only New Break

Although most of the names bandied back and forth are now purely of academic interest I think quoting a few generalities may help even the present day new breeder because the only new break has been in what we are calling Flamingo pinks. Even then, William Mohr, though unnamed, was much in the California side of the picture.

"If this storm goes over before *I. susiana* is through I will make crosses on some pale yellows and porcelain flowers not good enough to name but of the light tones desirable to use with *oncocyclus*." By 1928 Mr. Salbach had taken over the business end which Dr. Mitchell found so "incompatible" with breeding and in that year too "It is good to have a garden again."

"Seed of Frieda Mohr can hardly be persuaded to germinate."

"The early flowering here of *Argentina* and *Ramona* presents the possibility of widening the present narrow range of color in the Intermediates if crossed with the Dwarf Bearded which get badly treated by our usual heavy rains in March."

In 1929 a visit from B. Y. Morrison started with an iris discussion but lasted late into the night on daffodils so that Mr. Mitchell had daffodil seed to be planted.

In 1932 in sending some yellow seedlings he writes: "I am sure that most of the yellows Mr. White and I have got go back to two

seedlings of yours, Shekinah and Sherbert as we rarely see Maori King or Aurea more than one year and hence are most dependent on the pallida in Shekinah."

The above quotations serve to give us some idea of the keen interest shown by Sydney Mitchell in the iris as a garden flower and in the AIS as an agent for its development.

His professional prominence is attested not only by his becoming the Dean of Graduate School for Librarians at the University of California but by his presence at the annual conventions which often gave him an opportunity to visit his garden friends. His first visit in 1924 to Wellesley Farms included not only other New England iris gardens but stops in Philadelphia and New York where gardens were an added pleasure to that of professional contacts.

He was East again in the late 1920's and stopped by on his trip to Europe in 1929 where his view of the past operations of Cayeux brought him to a more restricted and clear cut line breeding that was suited to his home gardens. That year was thick with yellows which were then still a major objective for all breeders that had wearied with the host of diploid lavenders, and it was then Dr. Mitchell swung back to his early interest in plicatas. 1930 was also the year Miss Sturtevant and her associate, Miss Edlenann (now Lady Collet) visited the West Coast so the letters began with an Iris Baedeker for California from Mr. Mitchell and ended with firsthand reports on the work of the breeders in France and England.

In 1934 the Librarians met in Chicago in winter but the meeting led to a summer school-teaching job in 1935 with attendant garden stops. Shortly the Dean began a project of nation wide Library inspection and report. The idea was dropped unfortunately, but brought in a tour through the South East and an out-of-season visit to Chancellor Kirkland here in Nashville. His retirement in 1946 led to restricted travels up and down the West Coast but to an ever continuing interest in horticulture and close contacts with the AIS as witnessed at the Portland meeting. He had a great human interest in horticulture and he believed that the free exchange of ideas (even of pollen) was for the common good. After 1930, when Miss Sturtevant had made crosses in the garden and officially described certain outstanding seedlings, both were diverted from their major iris interests. They have become rather legendary figures though breeders for many decades will base their planned crossings on these pioneers who not only shared their knowledge freely but were convinced of the value of recording their activities. Thanks to them and others of like beliefs, few popular flowers have such recorded "family trees" as a guide to still better introductions.

Sydney B. Mitchell*

FRANCES CLARKE SAYERS
The New York Public Library

(The BULLETIN reprints the following article by Frances Clarke Sayers which was written upon Prof. Mitchell's retirement from teaching, since it expresses his wide professional interests in an entirely different field and since his contributions to horticultural literature and the Iris went beyond the narrow confines of a single objective.)

No one asked me to write this article, but I set it down for my own satisfaction in "remembrance of things past," upon receiving the news that Sydney B. Mitchell has left the professional field of librarianship for the flowery meads of his own miraculous garden which sweeps down the hills of Alameda County in California.

I saw him first at a meeting of the California Library Association in 1932 or thereabouts. It was a memorable conference, with the evening meetings scheduled in the patios amid the Spanish atmosphere of Santa Barbara, and we shivered through them and huddled around the small electric stoves which had been hastily assembled. There was a business meeting, one morning, at which a protest was voiced from the floor. I have long since forgotten what the subject of the discussion may have been, but I remember the vigor of the protest and the forthrightness with which it was made. "Who is that?" I asked, recognizing a force when I encountered it. "It is Mr. Sydney B. Mitchell, director of the Library School at Berkeley."

It was in my own house in Sausalito that I was next to encounter him. He had written, asking if he could call upon me to discuss a plan he had. I replied that he most certainly could, and by some accident I typed my phone number at the bottom of the letter in which I answered him. He said afterwards that he thought I must be a very able business woman, because I had included my phone number in my reply. I am afraid it was the only evidence of that sort I ever produced for him.

It was characteristic of Mr. Mitchell to take two ferries and a series of street cars to reach my house from Berkeley, rather than summon me to call upon him at his office. When he came, he spoke of wanting to further work with children in the state, particularly in the northern section, and he asked if I would consider shaping up a three-day institute at which children's librarians from Berkeley, San Francisco, Fresno, Ukia—all the towns and counties nearby—might come together and discuss their work.

Those three days were most astonishing and revealing. Here were

* From *Librarian's Journal*, Vol. 72, June 1947.

people, for the most part without formal training, each working on his own with books and children, who had never had a chance to discover what their cohorts were doing, until their State University gave them that opportunity. We met in one of the classrooms at the library school, and there was leisure enough for discussion and exchange of the most minute problem. At the end of that conference, the Children's Librarians Association of Northern California was formed under the chairmanship of Nanette Morgan of the Oakland Public Library. It has since become one of the most stimulating and active groups of children's librarians in the country. Its members have only recently indicated their gratitude to Mr. Mitchell by electing him honorary children's librarian of their group.

Here Was an Educator

A year later, at Mr. Mitchell's invitation, I returned to Berkeley to give a course in library work with children. I was told that the course was mine, to do with as I saw fit. It is no small accomplishment, in a graduate school, to support a lecturer who does not herself have all the degrees one is required to have before the portals of the academic world are opened to her.

Somehow, Mr. Mitchell accomplished it, and I was never haunted by the slightest feeling of inferiority for all my lack of formal degrees. Here was an educator, dean of a school, who thought of the training of his students in terms of the need of the state he served. If he directed me, I did not know it. How much I gained from him in liberal thinking, in breadth of view, in knowledge of political and economic forces, in understanding of people, in the breeding of iris, I acquired as one acquires all the great gifts of life, without realization of time and place, in casual conversation across his desk or mine.

The classrooms at Berkeley are divided by glass partitions, so that one lectures, not in a vacuum, but in a proverbial gold-fish bowl. At first I was embarrassed by the peering faces of other professors, who watched, but I came to welcome Mr. Mitchell's face at the partition. It never seemed to question, but only to confirm.

There were the days of indescribable weather, spring weather, when Mr. Mitchell came to his office in a high state of excitement. Then we knew. It was good weather for cross-breeding iris, and the excitement and mystery of that procedure carried over into the marble halls of the library, and the classroom. I shall never forget Mr. Mitchell on those days.

It was Mr. Mitchell's idea to organize a correspondence course in library work for children, for the librarians in the remote corners of the state. He procured funds from the Carnegie Foundation, ac-

quired a stenographer for the instructor, and we embarked upon a unique adventure.

I had, by this time, gone through a period of traveling in California, to Yreka, Sawyer's Bar, Weaverville—all the remote places which a tourist never sees, and I knew the degrees of development, the variety of patterns which children's work had or had not attained in the libraries of California.

Gets University's Approval

Eight years ago, in 1939, Mr. Mitchell once more set the seal of a great university's approval upon library work with children by inviting the children's librarians of the country to attend a three-day institute at Berkeley preceding the A. L. A. meeting in San Francisco. The success of that meeting was due to his great enthusiasm, his strong support at every point of the planning and the program, and his own delight in the response which it evoked.

The more I see of teachers, the more I know that the great among them brings to his subject all that he knows of life. It has been so with Mr. Mitchell's teaching and his supervision. He has always had an enthusiasm for the state and been very active in amateur dramatics. There was something of the actor in him, in his quick recognition of the essentially dramatic in people and in subject.

He is also a great good listener, a talent all too rare in those whose business it is to impart. Above all, he loves a good story, is a storyteller himself, and no shadow of humor ever escapes him. I am not one to regret that Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell have all the time in the world now for the acres they bring to flower, and for the writing that will follow, but I am sorry for the young librarians who have had the ill luck to be born too late for his teaching.

Desert Twilight

Our Introduction for 1952

DESERT TWILIGHT possesses all those subtle tones, so characteristic of the Mojave Desert at sundown. A soft violet lobelia self with mauve wood brown fused at the haft, with the added attraction of a beautiful enamel like finish. Fine form, substance and branching. H.C. 1951 **\$20.00**

SYLLMAR GARDENS

12982 Borden Avenue

San Fernando, California

Medals Awarded

NIES — NESMITH — RANDOLPH



Eric Nies, Hybridizer

At the fall meeting the Board of Directors awarded the Medal for Hybridizing to two eminent breeders of iris—Eric Nies of Hollywood, California and Elizabeth N. Nesmith of Lowell, Massachusetts. The medal for Distinguished Service to the Society was awarded to L. F. Randolph. Announcement of these awards was planned for this issue of the Bulletin and the medals themselves were to have been presented to the recipients in person, if possible, at the coming meeting of the Society to be held in Saint Louis in May. It is ironical that this Bulletin should also carry the news of the death of Eric Nies at the same time as the announcement that the Society had bestowed upon him its highest honor.

The iris world knew Eric Nies chiefly because of his work with the spurias but this was not his only interest. For instance in 1943 he registered Claremont, a dark blue self and Crowned Princess, a type now described as a yellow amoena.

Mr. Nies pioneered Pacific Coast interest in the Louisiana beardless and in 1941 registered Mallard Wing, a superlative hybrid though tender in northern gardens. Green Lustre was registered in 1942, a seedling of *I. hexagona alba*. His interest in beardless embraced the Pacific Coast natives as is witnessed by Orchid Sprite, a lovely pinkish hybrid from *I. Douglasiana*, Yellow Opal and Amiquita; these are seedlings of the Pacific Coast natives.

His breeding work with the spurias began with Monspur which is a hybrid of *I. monnieri* x *I. spuria* from Sir Michael Foster and the species *ochroleuca*. From this fortuitous combination of the genes of the yellow self (*monnieri*), the dark blue (*spuria*), and the white and yellow bicolor (*ochroleuca*) he got a break in color, size and form. In



Nies variety *Zephyrosa* is a flower of wonderful substance. Note flaring form as compared to the tucked-in falls of its progenitor *I. ochroleuca*. photo by corliss

1941 he registered Bronzspur and Saugatuck both from *ochroleuca* x Monspur. These iris were in tones of brown, a new color in spurias.

Bronzspur and Saugatuck were followed in 1942 by Azure Dawn (*ochroleuca* x Monspur) X (*ochroleuca* x Monspur); Dutch Defiance (Bronzspur x Saugatuck); Michigan State (Bronzspur x Sdlg.); Yellow Swallowtail (Bronzspur x *ochroleuca*), Lark Song (Bronzspur x Sdlg.) and Pastoral (Bronzspur x Saugatuck).

Fifth Symphony (Bronzspur x Sdlg.) came in 1944 along with two sensational varieties, Two Opals (Fifth Symphony x Saugatuck) and Russet Flame (Bronzspur x ?). Color Guard, a medium blue, was registered in 1948. Recent Nies registrations include Morgenstraal, Carmen Corliss, Cherokee Chief, Virginia Mansfield and *Zephyrosa*.

The importance of the work by Mr. Nies lies in the fact that beginning with the species, in a field practically untouched by others, he brought into these lovely irises a new color, a hybrid vigor and size and lastly greatly improved form as is clearly shown by the accompanying photograph of *Zephyrosa*. Though descending from *ochroleuca*, selective breeding has completely eliminated the tucked fall of the species.

Elizabeth Nesmith

In 1921 a small group of plant specialists co-operating with members of the American Peony Society organized the American Iris Society. Included in this group was Miss Grace Sturtevant. More than any one of the group, possibly, Miss Sturtevant recognized the need of directed efforts in hybridizing the iris. She imported the best of the foreign varieties for crossing and through voluminous correspondence of world-wide scope, kept abreast of the quickening evolution through which this flower passed.

When plans for the formation of the new society were begun, Miss Sturtevant invited a nearby gardening friend to join in its organization. When this friend showed an interest in hybridizing she gave freely of her knowledge and made her varieties available for this friend's use. Today, we owe to this friend, Elizabeth Nesmith, a debt of gratitude for through her the work of this first great American hybridizer has been preserved and combined with the work of the others until now there has come into being a new strain of tall bearded irises, a strain originating in the famous garden of 166 Fairmount Street. Now after thirty years the AIS recognizes this touch of genius by awarding to Mrs. Nesmith the Medal of Hybridizing.

There seem to be three natural divisions in the Nesmith irises. In the early era there were Cortez (a variegata), Gold Foam (a clear ruffled yellow) and Maluska, (a deep bronze red). These three were seedlings of Sturtevant irises.

In the second era of her hybridizing there were Cathedral Dome, White Goddess, Sundance and Melitza. Cathedral Dome and White Goddess were sensational when shown for the first time at the 1935 meeting of the Society which was held in Nashville. Melitza, a descendant of Goldstream (a Sturtevant iris) was one of the primary tangerine-beard-pink-bud breaks and has been widely used as a parent of modern pinks. Sundance is a variegata blend of great value as a parent for late blooming varieties.

The current era of Mrs. Nesmith's hybridizing has produced such fine varieties as Sukey of Salem, Bronze Brocade, Magic Sails and Black Satin. This latter variety combines height, size, depth of color and finish in a degree seldom seen in one iris. All of the above mentioned varieties have received the award of Honorable Mention. Melitza was given the Award of Merit.

Other Nesmith introductions include Highlight, Nusku, Tommy Tucker, Nobility, Sundown, Nutbrown Maid, Buccaneer, Azalea, Exquisite, Beau Gay, Copper Beech, Belvidere, Summer Song and Desert Dusk.

In addition to her work with irises, Mrs. Nesmith is one of the pioneer American breeders of *Hemerocallis*. Her red daylily Royal Ruby, though one of the modern reds, is still the standard of comparison today. One of the first to recognize the value of the species *fulva rosea*, she made full use of it in her breeding. Today she is recognized as the leader in breeding pink *hemerocallis*.



Betty Nesmith records a cross.

* * * * *

L. F. Randolph

The life cycle of most committees usually follows a pattern. The president of the institution selects a few big names to satisfy those politically conscious. Then he adds one or two who know what it is all about but who haven't time to do anything about it. As an afterthought, he puts on one person possibly who being conscientious about his duties may, if let alone, get the job done. The committee chairmen send out a lot of literature in high sounding phrases and then everyone forgets about the thing until next year.

Not so with the AIS Scientific Committee. In the first place several members of this committee were functioning before the committee was actually formed. And then, even if there was no formal organization, the chairman would be just as busy doing things on his own for Fitz Randolph is a serious irisarian. The study of plant genetics is his specialty. He lives it and breathes it and small wonder, since he is a professor in the Dept. of Botany, New York State Agricultural College at Cornell University. His most important project is corn research and in the pursuit of that he has spent several winters in Mexico growing corn and related grasses and crossing them in an effort to produce new hybrids of cultural value to our farmers.

Dr. Randolph's hobby is really a "Postman's holiday" for it means

that he has merely transferred his everyday work to iris problems. He was asked to head our Scientific Committee in 1945, and immediately instituted a breeding program aimed at producing better flowers on the one hand and reliable scientific material on the other. Randolph's plan called for using ordinary AIS members as his scientific helpers, an unheard of procedure in scientific circles.

As chairman of the committee he encouraged and advised the individual members in their pet projects such as the dwarf bearded breeding program by Walter Welch and his associates; Dr. A. H. Sturtevant in his investigation concerning the tangerine beard; Geddes Douglas in his amoena experiments; Paul Cook in his efforts to introduce new species into our garden hybrids, etc. Dr. Randolph himself is the author of a proposed reclassification of the bearded section and perhaps his greatest contribution to our recent scientific advances is his experiments in germination by the excised embryo method. This made possible the study of plants which never would have come into being if germination had depended on natural reactions.

In Fitz Randolph there is a rare combination of qualities—the thinker, a man with his feet squarely on the ground, a man of action, but withal, no lack of vision. If your idea of the college professor goes no further than the proverbial absent-minded individual, you will be sadly disappointed; Randolph is strickly on the beam. But at the same time a discerning eye can detect more than a trace of that pedantic mien.

In awarding the medal for Distinguished Service to the Society to L. F. Randolph we seek to honor a man who, while his service in the past has been meritorious, will rise to the challenge of the occasion in the future.

1952 Introductions by **MARION R. WALKER**

MOHR MAJESTY ('52) Large well formed buff colored Mohr seedling. Well domed standards without markings. Falls broad and overlaid wine color. Height 36" with good branching. (Wm. Mohr x Golden Majesty) **\$15.00 NET**

SESPE ('52) Tall graceful greenish yellow self with flaring falls and excellent substance. Height 58". Robust grower. (Brown Betty x Fort Knox)H.C. 1949 **\$10.00 NET**

WALKER RANCH

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VENTURA, CALIFORNIA

Yellow Amoena or What?

MRS. JEAN STEVENS, New Zealand

The Editor, in his foreword to the October BULLETIN No. 123, brings up the question of the colour classification of irises of the Pinnacle pattern. He comments on the fact that this white standard, yellow falls, combination has recently been referred to as an amoena, and questions the correctness of the definition. Quite rightly he states that a decision on what we are going to term this combination should be given now. Certainly to define this class before there are many varieties of the type, will save much confusion in the future when, without doubt, we shall have a great many.

Our Editor has put forward the contention that the term amoena does not correctly define the Pinnacle pattern, and it will therefore be of interest to weigh the pro's and con's of the matter, both from his definition of an amoena and from the more usual definition which gives an amoena as an iris with white standards and coloured falls.

First of all I am going to give some information, based on my own breeding work, which will show that the whole subject is more complex than it appears on the surface. We accept the white standards blue falls combination as an amoena, and at this date are merely needing one other term which will cover white standards and yellow falls. But if we give these two combinations separate class names we shall very shortly be confronted with the need to coin a host of new names for a group of combinations all with white standards, but with falls of neither yellow nor blue.

Some years ago, having succeeded in raising the white standard yellow falls combination in good numbers, I decided to extend the scope of my breeding and try for an iris with white standards and pale pink falls with tangerine beard. This last November (our New Zealand flowering season) I flowered the first iris with white standards and pink falls, complete with tangerine beard. It is not sufficiently good to name as the flower is too small and the pink too pale, but it is definitely a pink—amoena? You see my point? Another generation or two—I have a large number of seedlings tending to white and pink similarly bred, and other breeders may also be making progress with this combination—and we shall have to find a new name for this class if we limit the term amoena to white and blue. Then again I am engaged on a further white standard coloured fall combination which is emerging as a side product of the white and deep gold breeding. This is white standards and bronze falls.

White and yellow, white and pink, white and bronze, white and red—

we must either term them all amoenas, white standards and coloured falls, or we must find a name for each of them.

Now I want to take you back to our Editor's foreword. Mr. Douglas bases his argument on the definition of an amoena as a variegata minus the yellow plastid colouring in the whole flower including the falls. But his own Extravaganza is termed an amoena and there is a whole lot of yellow left in those rich copper-toned prune falls! The gene for yellow, affecting the standards is almost absent but the genes for yellow—and I suspect there are many—are as fully present in the falls of Extravaganza as they are in many variegatas.

Let us look at the question from the point of view of another genetical theory—that an amoena is an iris of variegata derivation where the genes for yellow in the standards are absent. Genetically we shall be on firm ground, for the very existence of an iris with white standards and yellow falls proves that the gene affecting the yellow in the standards is not the same gene which affects the yellow in the falls. Of variegata derivation? The white and yellows are gained only from inbreeding variegatas and their derivatives. What about the pink and white? Well, Mr. Douglas himself will assure you that a pink bud break is yet to be found that is not bred from a yellow or variegata derivative.

Whether we call all irises with white standards and coloured falls amoenas, or define amoenas as variegata derivatives with white standards will not then matter, for as the situation stands the terms are complementary. Therefore why not blue amoenas, yellow amoenas, pink amoenas, brown and red amoenas?

We have blue plicatas and yellow plicatas, but the standard term plicata was based on a white pallida veined with blue, and did not at one time include any iris of plicata pattern plus the genes for yellow.

In Memoriam—Charles Frank Noel

The Greater Kansas City Iris Society lost its founder and very good friend when Charles Frank Noel died on November 17, 1951, but he will always be remembered for his love of the Iris, his favorite flower.

For years he had grown and loved many varieties, and through his unbounded enthusiasm he introduced many of his friends and neighbors into the joys of growing and loving irises.

To his wife, son and daughter, his many friends extend their deepest sympathy.

Return of the Slide Rule

GEDDES DOUGLAS, Tenn.

Good, better, best. How, just exactly do we apply these terms to our favorites irises? Will the champ in Texas be the chump in Massachusetts, or vice versa? Gardeners clamor for the official word from the judges. Magazines beg for copy. Dealers and nurseries hold their catalogs waiting for the last news of awards and honors. Champs and chumps. How do we determine which are which? The time has come I think to stop and take stock of our methods and practices.

First and foremost, of course, is our system of awards. We have in our Society a group of experts known as Accredited Judges. These people are appointed by the Awards Committee from all parts of the country. Their duties are to vote on awards given to varieties seen in gardens.

The first and most important award is the Dykes Medal, voted on by the accredited judges, and awarded by majority. The Dykes Medal is an English award to an American iris which has had a previous Award of Merit. Recently, as the highest honors in their respective fields, the Board of Directors has instituted the Caparne Award for the dwarfs, The Morgan Award for the Siberians and the Mary Swords Debaillon Award for the Louisiana species and hybrids.

Second only in importance to the Dykes Medal and the other memorial awards is the Award of Merit. This award is voted yearly to twelve tall bearded varieties under certain specified rules of procedure. The eligible list is limited to varieties having received Honorable Mention during a five year period.

The Honorable Mention is a primary award given in unlimited number to varieties that have been introduced to commerce, duly named and registered and voted on by a specified number of Judges.

Also, we have two so-called minor awards, the High Commendation and the Exhibition Certificate. Both are for named or numbered un-introduced seedlings, the first is given in the garden, the second in AIS accredited iris shows. Both of these awards are of small importance in themselves, but they serve to call attention to new irises which in the opinion of the judges merit especial attention. In addition to the above awards we conduct a yearly Popularity Poll.

Popularity Poll in Twelfth Year

The Popularity Poll was formerly known as the Symposium and about twelve years ago was suggested and promulgated by Mr. Kenneth D. Smith as an unofficial project. It gained so rapidly in popular favor

that it was adopted by the AIS as an official undertaking. Through 1951 it was voted on only by the accredited garden judges but by popular demand in 1952 it is to be made a nation-wide affair and will be voted on by the entire membership of the Society.

These various awards and the Popularity Poll purport to reflect the judgment of those who are supposed to know what is best in iris. But do they? Isn't the net result rather a pick of what is prettiest and hence the most popular? Can we turn to the Symposium and say that since Blue Rhythm headed the list that it is the *best* blue for Southern California—or New England. Our Dykes Medalist this past season was Cherie, truly a beautiful new pink. But can we support the claim that Cherie is the best pink for Tennessee or Oregon for instance? I doubt it. Our awards and honors at present are based upon sensory values only with little thought given to the individual qualities necessary for a plant to be a valuable garden subject for a given set of conditions.

Formerly we used a rating system based upon a point-score percentage table which was supposed to give an indication of the variety's worth. Unfortunately the ratings were reduced to a composite score which seems to me to defeat the very purpose of rating individual characteristics. In addition the score was quoted in percentage or parts per hundred and as irises became better and more beautiful the ratings mounted higher and higher. By 1947 little room was left for expansion. Most ratings were bunched around 90% and the judges found themselves unwilling to go higher for it was quite obvious that no iris was so close to perfection, and reluctant to go lower for to do so would be unfair to newer things obviously better than older varieties which would then carry a previously given higher rating. There could be but one result of this dilemma. The Board of Directors instructed the Awards Committee to discontinue Numerical Ratings.

This action by the Board served to eliminate a bad practice but it did not solve the problem. We can point with pride at Blue Shimmer as being the most popular *plicata* numerically, but we cannot assure the gardener in Arizona that it will grow well and bloom profusely for him. We can single out Amandine as being the current cream in our AIS coffee, but we cannot with positive assurance say that it will perform equally well under the dripping rays of a Louisiana sun as it might in the crisp coolness of a Lake Michigan breeze. The answer is, I think, that we still need some kind of a rating system. Especially do we need evaluation data on new varieties that have not had time for wide distribution. Dr. Randolph and the Scientific Committee experimented with Regional Ratings but this proved to be unpopular with the judges. The system as used was rather complicated and the judges begrudged the time and effort it necessitated, particularly at a time when they wanted to enjoy irises instead of filling out forms. In addition, the

results obtained hardly justified the project. Though the judges were instructed in good rating practices and undoubtedly made an honest effort to do a good job, the results were little different from our previous experience. The ratings were bunched and the small differences unimportant.

Old Rating System Basically Unsound

The reason for this second failure was the same reason for the first failure. Our rating system was basically unsound. The standard of values was fixed, so that all values proceeded in one direction only—upwards. Soon there was no room at the top for improvement. This meant an inevitable tightening, a lessening of differences and therefore meaningless results.

For ratings to be of value there must be a high degree of flexibility in the standard used. As varieties improve each year there must be adequate provision to record this improvement no matter how great it may be in comparison with known values. If your standard is 100% then this is a fixed value now and from now on. Each year you simply approach it a little closer. Fortunately there are other avenues of approach.

Suppose, for the sake of argument that your standard is “x,” and instead of giving it an arbitrary set figure you simply record the difference as determined from a certain basis of comparison. Then you would have unlimited room above “x” to show improvement and the same room below “x” to record deficiencies. But what is “x,” you may well ask. There is nothing complicated about it. It is simply the standard for comparison for any given thing at any given time. Let’s pursue this thought a little further.

How do you tell whether a thing is good or not? Anything, that is. You do it by comparing it with something you know. It is either better than the thing you know or of lesser value. By this very token therefore you are setting up the thing that you know as your standard of comparison. I propose to do just this with irises by using the ones which we are familiar as our standard of comparison and then working out a simple system of numerical values to record differences between this standard and the subject under scrutiny.

To do this it is necessary to forget completely the old percentage viewpoint and to adopt a different concept which I will dub “the flexible average principle” for the want of a better term. It is simply this; adopt one or more standard varieties of the day as our standard of comparison and consider it or them as the average. Then newcomers can be examined point by point in the light of their being either above or below this average. That is absolutely all there is to it for its positively that simple. To repeat, you rate by comparison, either up or down,

using as a standard of known value, the best of the current varieties.

The next thing is to get this idea into a practical, usable form. Since we must use numbers then let's set as our average the figure five which is the mean between zero and ten. If we let the figure five be the average of comparison for each of the usual points of judging such as form, finish, substance, stalk, etc., then it is possible to judge each of these points numerically in reference to this average. For example let's suppose that a new blue iris is under consideration. There are many good blues, but since Blue Rhythm currently heads the Popularity Poll, for the sake of argument let's set it up as the basis of comparison.

The next step would be to arbitrarily assign the figure 5 to each of the points in the judging scale to Blue Rhythm and then to judge other blues in the light of this as a standard. You would actually ask yourself such questions as, "Does this iris have better substance than Blue Rhythm?" If so I will rate it six instead of Blue Rhythm's average figure—or is the branching as good? If not I will give it a 4 which is below the average. And so on for the various questions under consideration.

Judges Job Simple

The standard point score systems usually consider the following characteristics: Color, Substance, Form, Fragrance, Branching, Sturdiness (of stalk), Number of buds, Foliage, Vigor, Floriferousness. Under this system each of these ten points would be given a value of five for the average and the subject under consideration judged above or below five. The judge's job would be relatively simple. He would examine the subject and write down ten numbers on a previously prepared sheet which might look something like this.

Variety	Blossom				Stalk			Plant		
	Color	Substance	Form	Fragrance	Branching	Sturdiness	Number of Buds	Foliage	Vigor	Floriferousness
1. Panamanian	4	6	7	0	5	5	3	6	6	8
2. Frijole	10	1	1	5	2	5	2	5	5	5
3. Cupcake	2	5	10	5	4	5	3	5	5	5

Let's interpret the above with reference to No. 1—Panamanian. The first four points concern the blossom. From the points shown evidently



Variety Golden Hawk, a K. D. Smith introduction, is an iris of flaring form and smooth finish.

it is an attractively shaped, long lasting bloom of slightly poorer than average color, having no fragrance. The next three points concern the stalk which is average except that it is short on buds and this may result in a short season of bloom. Lastly, the remaining three points—foliage—vigor and floriferousness pertain to the plant and one can readily see that Panamanian is a good garden subject, well above the average with sufficient bloom stalks to amply make up for any lack of buds on the stalk.

Next, let's consider Frijole. Here is a color break. The substance and form leave a lot to be desired, the stalk is rather poor and the plant is acceptable. But a single glance at the ratings here shows one

thing—something new in the way of color. Such a rating might have been given to Seashell in 1933 when it first bloomed for Dr. Loomis. Lastly, Cupcake shows something interesting. The color is nothing new or outstanding (probably it has lines at the haft) substance is average but what of the form. Here as in the previous case is something new, but this time it is a break in form. The stalk is acceptable and the plant is all we might expect. The main thing is that here is something new and different in the way of improved iris shape. Dave Hall's Chantilly might have been so designated in 1945 and currently Dr. F. Cook's Pinafore Lass which is something new and different in the way of flower form could be cataloged in a moment by a rating similar to the above.

Such an iris as Panamanian under the old system in all probability would have rated around 89 or something like that. All you can say for the iris that rated 89 was that it was better than one that rated 88 but not so good as one that rated 90. I defy anyone to construct a detailed analysis of the individual qualities that make up a worthwhile garden plant from a single composite rating figure.

The possibilities of this flexible system are endless. No matter what kind of an iris you are judging, the judge automatically compares it with the current best of its class or kind. Thus dwarfs would be judged as dwarfs, Siberians against the standard Siberian. Early intermediates would no longer be compared to their later blooming cousins, the larger and more colorful tall bearded, but rather, against the standard best of their class. Bedding irises would be judged according to their bed-fellows, in other words!

Further, such ratings will be of additional value if grouped by climatic regions. Roughly the United States might be divided as follows: Northeast, Middle Atlantic, Southeast, Ohio Valley, Midwest, Southwest, Rocky Mountain, North Pacific Coast and South Pacific Coast. Individual ratings from each of these nine super regions when grouped together would be an item of value, whereas a single composite average for the whole U.S. is interesting only to those people who are mathematically inclined.

In closing I would like to point out that this is being presented not from the position of the Editor of this journal, but rather from the angle of a reader, an iris judge who recognized the futility of our former rating system and who officiated at its demise and interment. At the same time however, this writer believes that ratings have a value and we have nothing to take their place. With countless people raising seedlings it is inevitable that we have many new varieties. We need an evaluating system to give us an idea as to their worth especially since the popular demand for test gardens and guest plants seems to be growing each year.

HANOVER EXPOSITION 1951

This Horticultural Exposition (1. Bundesgartenschau 1951) with the Special Iris Garden marked the beginning of public interest in the German Iris Society. The help of the AIS with its representative collection of best irises added greatly to the success of the Exposition. A note of cultural interest is that some of the iris—tall bearded, oncos and Regelias—were air mailed here from California in October 1950, topped and put in cold frames until planted in April 1951, and by June were almost totally in bloom.

Even in April the Junos looked fine, especially Willmottiana alba, a striking, floriferous and lovely plant, indispensable; is a spring gem.

Good also was the flowering of *Iris susiana*, *korolkowi*, *stolonifera*, *hoogiana* and hybrids. There were also represented *Reticulatas*, *Apogons*, *Evansias*, Dutch and English Irises.

The flower of the tall bearded began on May 20 in the U.S.A. division. These were the best and much admired: Easter Candle, Magic Carpet, Blue Rhythm, Blue Valley, Lothario, Black Forest, Spindrift, Harriet Thoreau, Solid Mahogany, Christobel, The Oriole, Lady Mohr, Casa Morena, Sierra Primrose, Mission Madonna, Easter Gold, Berkeley Gold, Spun Gold, Ola Kala, Amandine, Firecracker, Ruffled Bouquet.

In the division of "solitaires," reserved for "clumps" out of the President's stock, were mainly varieties from the U.S.A., with others from Germany and France. These "clumps" were used to demonstrate the vitality, floriferousness and effectiveness of three to five year plants:

An effective red and golden corner with Red Torch, Mexico, Stardom and Display shows altogether about 50 blooms.

A good plot showing "black" strain contained Black Forest, Night-fall, Black Beauty and the old variety Mrs. J. L. Gibson—this last clump alone having 22 stalks of flowers.

But a sensation was Winter Carnival. It produced continuously the finest white flowers of 6 to 7 inches across. "These are orchids," everyone exclaimed.

In the French Division prominent were: Lugano, a charming white and autumn flower (Cayeux 1948), Froufrou (Cayeux 1949) snappier than Amigo. Flaubert (Cayeux 1949), Sonatine (Cayeux 1947) and Montaigne (Cayeux 1947) are three great irises in good style and size. The first is a dark wine-red, the next purple and the last is very similar to Indian Hills with very dark falls. Pompée (Cayeux 1947) and Senegal (Cayeux 1947) are two clean and attractive parallels to Mexico and Red Torch. Donatello (Cayeux 1947) is much like Acropole and Minnie Colquitt, a vigorous and good plicata.

The English collection was not as representative as the others but Benton Daphne (Morris 1947) was a lovely pink plicata; Benton Duff

(Morris 1947) a graceful yellow plicata in tender colors of chamois; Treasure Ship (Long 1943) a yellow with part honey color.

In the German novelties, 36 were from Director A. Steffen-Erfurt, one of the oldest and most meritorious of German hybridizers. His Danzig (1948) is a development, especially in colors of Frieda Mohr, and a respectable iris; Zitrone=Lemon (1949), a development in color and substance of Elsa Sass and Moonlight Madonna, a luminous yellow with a good effect far off. Similar is Fruhlingslied= Song of Spring (1950) but more of a fine medium yellow.

Goldfackel=Golden Torch (1949) a good deep yellow of heavy style with only insignificant venation. Goldnes Dachl=Golden Roof (1946) was a favorite because though an early bloomer it stayed long in flower, is floriferous and vigorous, a smooth honey color. Irene (1950) a good counterpart to Bright Lights—standards light bronze color, a delightful iris. Pascha (1949) a plicata in coppery-red, late, an improved Hockspannung, a variety which it supercedes. Finally Ravel, a fine creation of Mrs. Helen von Stein-Zeppelin (Zeppelin 1950), altogether a distinguished plicata in the type of Lady of Shalott. Large sized well-formed flowers with extraordinary resistance to wind and rain.

The iris were followed by lilies in new varieties. Very impressive was *L. princeps* x *floriosum*, an excellent development of *L. regale* by Mr. Steffen-Erfurt—stalks very tall and with luxuriant flowering. A development of *L. Willmottiae* by the same breeder demonstrates real towers of numberless red flowers.—ERNST BIESALSKI, Germany.

In Memoriam—Mrs. Lena Lothrop

Mrs. Lothrop died on Christmas night, after an evening out with friends. She was an enthusiastic writer of the iris of Southern California and was a charter member of the Southern California Iris Society. In years past she was a frequent contributor to the Bulletin of the American Iris Society and was the author of the chapter on the "California Subsection" in the Society's publication *The Iris—An Ideal Hardy Perennial*. Before her retirement she was a discerning judge and a breeder of many fine seedlings. Perhaps the best known of her introductions was the variety Esquire. Probably more than any one person she preached iris interest far and wide.

In her later years Mrs. Lothrop assisted Mr. Clarence White in his monumental work with his Oncobreds, and became widely known as his "Spring Secretary." She was an active force in Southern California iris circles from 1928 on. Region 15 has lost a valued friend.

Iris Stylosa *

MRS. T. B. REVELL, JR., Miss.

Iris Unguicularis is the very ugly name given to the very beautiful winter blooming iris. A more euphonious name, and one more commonly used in this section of the country is *Stylosa*, and a name which is rarely used is *Cretensis*.

The winter flowering *Iris Stylosa* is one of our most interesting and valuable plants. Its homeland is Algeria, the Aegean Islands and Greece and I have heard of varieties collected in the Pyrenees.

It is a charming evergreen iris having long grass-like foliage and the flowers are borne on stemlike parts, really elongated perianth tubes 8" to 16" long. The flowers are various shades of blue-lavender with an orange tongue, and white reticulations and a yellow blotch on the falls. The flowers being delightfully fragrant and of great refinement, they are perfect for home decoration, and for corsages they cannot be excelled.

It begins flowering in mid-October, if cold weather comes that early, or early in November in milder years, and blooms constantly through December, January, February, and well into March. Its unearthly fragile blossoms often hold their proud heads above a sheet of snow at their feet. It cannot be induced to flower in spring and summer, as this is its normal rest period, but as soon as there is a heavy frost, or freeze, the flower buds begin to grow and blossom. Just before the time for the flower buds to appear I always cut my foliage to about half the height it has attained and this permits the blossoms to emerge from the plant. So contrary yet so airily lovely a blossom must belong to the always tardy and obstinate feminine gender.

In the north they are best raised in cold frames or in pots, sunk in the ground in summer, but in our own Southland they perform perfectly out in the open ground.

The culture of the winter blooming iris is very simple and it is not "choosey." Any good garden soil is suitable, but do not make it too rich or you will have too much foliage and too few flowers. Bone meal is the best fertilizer, if you are one of those gardeners who just have to use fertilizer. A liberal addition of peat moss or leaf mold is of value and they must be given good drainage. Plant them in the sunniest and warmest spot in your garden, against a protecting wall if you have such an asset, or, if such is not available, a fence or the foundation of the house is as good a situation. All moisture should be withheld from the plants during the summer months, and if it has been

* Reprinted from *Year-Book*, Utah Iris Society.

a hot dry summer the flowers are likely to appear in great abundance in early October. If the summer has been wet and especially if it has been mild and lacking in sunshine, the flowers will not be as numerous and may not appear until November.

I have grown this favorite of mine in many positions and exposures, but strangely enough the most satisfactory situation is the bed in which I planted my first treasure. It is in a mixed bed on the South of our home, where it gets a minimum of moisture in summer and is protected in winter. At the time I ordered this plant from Carl Salbach many years ago, I had never seen any cultural directions and of course was unfamiliar with its requirements. But the intuition which sometimes guides me, seemed to direct my choice of location, and that first plant is still blooming and "going strong." Many plants have left its side to be given to friends and garden visitors, and each time part of its prodigality leaves to enrich another garden my old friend seems to smile at me and say, "I'll just spread out and soon you will not miss the part of me you gave away."

The plants may be set out any time they can be obtained from the nursery, and while most growers recommend planting them in August or September, I have had equal success planting them immediately after they finish flowering, which is in late March or early April. Newly set plants should be kept watered until active growth begins. The long wire like roots will soon take hold and once established they resent being disturbed. Much better results will be had if the plants have several shoots and are not too severely divided.

It is very strange to me that a flower which is so valuable and easily grown should be so little known. It should be grown by that large and fast growing group of garden fanciers, the flower arrangement fans, even if they are not "iris fans," for it provides myriads of lovely fragrant blossoms for a period of about six months at a time when there is very little fresh material available to be used in our homes.

In late March when other varieties of iris are flaunting their more spectacular colors on the landscape, our shy little darling is still with us although the blossoms are getting smaller and fewer. For the many years I have been growing this desirable iris I have never failed to have quantities of these dainty little flowers to decorate my dinner table at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Could you ask more of any plant?

I have been successful in growing five varieties of *Stylosa*. There is "the species" with its deep blue flowers borne amid a grassy foliage on perianth tubes 8 inches long. *Iris Stylosa Angustifolia* has narrower foliage and paler blooms than the type and is earlier. *Iris stylosa Marginata* is a larger form with broader and more abundant foliage, longer stems and larger flowers. *Iris Stylosa Marginata Alba* is a white form and not as prolific nor as easy of culture. There is a new Orchid Striped

form which is really striped with deep violet on an orchid ground.

During the unprecedented weather we had the last week in January and the first week in February 1951 when the thermometer went down to 16 below, and the entire landscape was transformed into a winter wonderland, the iris decided that they would put on a special show. As the rain fell it quickly froze, making trees and shrubs into living candelabra of rare beauty, it also froze upon the hundreds of iris blooms completely encasing them in tiny cylinders of ice. Snow later fell to a great depth; but the sun came out and for three or four days its rays shining upon the ice crystals were of such dazzling beauty one was reminded of the mirrored rooms in the palace of Versailles. The scene was one of such magnificence and so fairy like, I constantly expected the seven dwarfs to come by bearing Sleeping Beauty in her glass coffin. For there in the yard were countless iris beauties in a perfect state of preservation in their ice "coffins." I find words completely inadequate to paint the full beauty of those iris blossoms resting in their bed of snow. We will in all probability never again experience any weather to equal that spell as I have never seen anything like it in my life time, but I will never forget the beauty outside my window.

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CHARLES E. WISE

BOX 175 — WAKARUSA, INDIANA

Iris Aureonympha, Golden Nymph^{*}

EDITH HARDIN ENGLISH

The genetic adventure of planning the existence of a plant with certain definite and desirable characteristics and years later seeing that very entity blooming in profusion in the garden, is an experience to warm the heart of any plant lover. Such an adventure is appurtenant to the history of *Iris aureonympha*, Golden Nymph.

In May 1936, just about the time that *Iris innominata* was at its height of bloom, there came a rain storm that pommelled its lovely golden blossoms to the earth. It was this pathetic sight that awakened the desire for a plant that would have not only the handsome golden blossoms of *I. innominata* but also sturdy upright stems. Hybridization offered the way for the needed improvement.

Nearby in the garden grew a short compact form of *I. Douglasiana* which had been chosen and collected as an individual of merit on a slope covered with plants of this species in southern Oregon. Having proved such a substantial and satisfactory member of the garden, this particular plant was selected as the parent that would contribute the desired characters. True, it had violet-lavender flowers which were not wanted in the prospective hybrid, but this trait eventually could be eliminated. To its credit, *I. Douglasiana* bore two flowers to a stem whereas *I. innominata* had but one.

The plants of *I. innominata* had come into our garden in an interesting manner. One winter evening in 1930 Mrs. John R. Leach, of Portland, Oregon, had said to my husband, "Here are some seeds of the lovely new iris that we discovered in southern Oregon. I want you to have these seeds. See if they cannot be made to grow in your garden." Happily they did grow, being very likely the first of this new species to be grown in cultivation. Even moving them to Seattle when they were tiny seedlings did not dampen their enthusiasm for growing. In February 1930 Professor L. F. Henderson published Mrs. Leach's newly discovered plant as *Iris innominata*, in *Rhodora*, Vol. 32. Thus *I. innominata* began its botanical and horticultural careers almost simultaneously.

In May 1936 my first attempt at hybridization of *I. Douglasiana* and *I. innominata* was made, the flower head being carefully bagged and labeled. This attempt, however, met with failure. The rain storm which had continued made conditions most unfavorable.

The following May the work of hybridization was begun anew, the

^{*} Reprinted from *The National Horticultural Magazine*, October, 1948.



Iris variety Aureonympha—Golden Nymph

photo by english

cross between *I. Douglasiana* and *I. innominata* being made both ways, that is, using both species for seed-bearing parents. On August 9, 1937 nineteen very wizened and abnormal looking seeds were collected from the *I. innominata* parent. On September 18 of that same year, 134 plump, well-formed seeds were harvested from the *I. Douglasiana* parent. All of the seeds from both plants were sown in two respective pots and kept out of doors over the winter.

The following spring brought forth only one plant from the nineteen wizened seeds. From the 134 plump seeds there came an abundance of healthy little grass-like plants. These were transplanted as soon as they were large enough to handle and the soil in the pot left undisturbed. The following spring another lot of these original seeds germinated, making seventy-two plants in all from the harvest of *I. Douglasiana*.

Then came the wait throughout the seasons while I carefully weeded and cultivated the tiny seedlings, exercising meanwhile the abundance of faith that the hybridizer of plants must maintain. Finally with the third spring the longed-for floral offerings appeared. Each morning I hurried out to the plot to see what miracles the night had wrought, resisting with considerable effort the temptation to pry open the buds to see what color the flowers would be.

Whatever the dainty little *I. innominata* lacked in ability to produce

plump, fat seeds was more than counterbalanced by its ability to transmit the apparently dominant golden color. Such an interesting assortment of yellows appeared, the varying degrees of veining and shading making no two truly identical. It was surprising to find such a meager amount of violet-lavender in evidence at all.

The one lone plant, grown from the seeds of *I. innominata*, combined the characters least desired, frailty and the lavender color. I have kept this plant and have a certain scientific interest in it because it represents, no doubt, the recessive characters. It is, in fact, fairly attractive, but it could never become the prima donna that loving admirers have made of *I. aureonympha*, Golden Nymph.

It was not until the third year of bloom, when ample opportunity had been granted to study and compare the blossoms, that Golden Nymph was set apart from the others as something special, to be propagated, photographed and named. The quality which made this plant outstanding among its numerous sisters was a certain air of daintiness, an attribute of golden, frilled femininity which, incidentally, suggested its name. Upon seeing Golden Nymph for the first time nearly everyone says, "Why, it looks just like an orchid."

The veining, so prominent in both its parents, is reduced to delicate markings of deeper yellow. The flower, throughout, is of soft golden yellow. Happily, like its maternal parent, it bears two flowers to each stem. True to its purpose of coming into being, this hybrid has sturdy stems that stand up well in rainy weather.

Among the remaining seventy-one sister plants are several that show real promise and in due time will be studied and named. One diminutive individual with short leaves and big golden flowers should make a very suitable subject for the partly shaded rock garden.

The most pleasing part of the entire experiment was the fact that I found my Golden Nymph among the plants of the F_1 generation. F_2 generation plants are now on their way to demonstrate what treasures they can produce.

To anyone wishing to try similar experiments with other genera I cannot emphasize too strongly the importance of working with species rather than with plants that have resulted from so many crosses and re-crosses that their genetic characters are a hodge-podge.

THE POPULARITY BALLOT OF 1952

Since 1940 the judges of the society have voted for twelve symposiums each listing about 100 favorite irises. At first, the ballots were sent to a selected list of judges, but for most of that period all judges have been asked to participate. Recently, over 250 ballots have been cast each year. A consolidated tabulation of these twelve symposiums shows that only 263 irises have been on any of the lists. Thus there has been remarkable agreement among the judges as to their favorites. In the 1951 list the number of votes ran from 205 to 260 votes for each iris. This agreement was helped, of course, by the fact that the judges were limited to a selected list of 300 irises. These lists have met with increasing interest in catalogues and horticultural magazines, which have given publicity to iris and to our society.

Twelve long-time favorites have been on all twelve lists and fifteen more have been listed ten or eleven times. A list of these is printed in this Bulletin. Those irises were necessarily introduced prior to 1940, but the list is not limited to older varieties. Four varieties have been on the list 9 consecutive times from the time of first appearance to date, 6 varieties have been listed 8 times, 14 varieties 7 times, 11 varieties 6 times, and 16 varieties 5 times. These are all irises of more recent introductions. Also, in response to several requests, there is printed the list of the additional fifty names on the 1951 Symposium.

For a long time I have believed that many of our members would welcome the chance to express their choices and to participate in this ballot. But the difficulty of tabulation has seemed prohibitive. Now a scheme has been devised whereby this is to be done by regions. This will give a list for each region and these can be consolidated into one list for publication in the Bulletin. Also, each region will have an opportunity to publish a regional list in the regional bulletins, which are coming in rapidly increasing numbers. A recent symposium of the members of Region 11 has convinced me that the members of this society are as well informed as the accredited judges. A list of 100 favorites by 2,500 members of the American Iris Society should be a good list and by the number of the ballots give a more accurate list of good iris than a list by judges totalling only one-tenth of that number. I am relying on the members to vote, vote intelligently, and prove that I am right.

At any rate, the directors of the society have voted to open the 1952 Ballot to all the members of the society. A selected list of 300 varieties of tall bearded iris has been prepared and sent in duplicate to each of our members. All varieties listed have received an Honorable Mention, or better. The list includes all varieties in the 100 Favorites of 1950 and 1951, the additional 50 Favorites of 1951, and all which have

received Honorable Mention in the past three years. The names are arranged alphabetically and each member is asked to check off one hundred favorites. In addition, any member may write in the names of five other varieties not listed which have received Honorable Mention. One copy of the list will be mailed to the Regional Vice President for tabulation.—HAROLD W. KNOWLTON, *Chairman*, Awards Committee.

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY — 1951 Symposium

Additional Fifty

	<i>Variety and Year Introduced</i>	<i>1950 Rank</i>	<i>Times Rated</i>	<i>Total Points</i>
101	Sunset Blaze '48		189	1359
102	Golden Eagle '42		237	1359
103	Ming Yellow '38	99	251	1355
104	Pierre Menard '48	79	173	1351
105	Heritage '49		189	1350
106	Nightfall '42		229	1349
107	Spindrift '44		255	1346
108	Lighthouse '36		240	1334
109	Christabel '36	HF	253	1330
110	Tea Rose '44	80	227	1326
111	Black Banner '47		206	1325
112	Louvois '38		249	1320
113	Angelus '37		233	1319
114	Remembrance '42	73	227	1308
115	White Wedgewood '43	90	233	1306
116	Captain Wells '41	59	225	1299
117	Garden Magic '36		237	1296
118	Three Cheers '45	51	223	1293
119	Vice Regal '46		202	1291
120	Misty Gold '43	86	218	1290
121	Patrice '45		214	1287
122	Balmung '39		242	1287
123	Junaluska '34	HF	248	1285
124	Melanie '41	88	231	1282
125	Lake Breeze '45		200	1280
126	Morocco Rose '37		248	1280
127	Frank Adams '37	89	244	1279
128	Stardom '41		242	1273
129	Golden Hind '34		249	1273
130	Lord Dongan '40	74	217	1266
131	Brunhilde '34		234	1262



Iris against the conifers! Iris against the sky. This ornamental lamp post stands at the entrance to the garden of Mrs. Ralph S. Nelson, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Mrs. Nelson is the popular Veep of Region II. Region eleven has the distinction of having had the greatest percentage of new members of all the twenty-one regions in 1951. No small part of the credit for this should go to Mrs. Nelson who designed the iris motif shown in the delightful photograph. The outstanding success of the Regional Symposium in Region II in 1950 was a great factor in the Society's determination to hold a national symposium on a regional basis in 1952.

	<i>Variety and Year Introduced</i>	<i>1950 Rank</i>	<i>Times Rated</i>	<i>Total Points</i>
132	Good News '46		196	1253
133	Russet Wings '46		202	1252
134	Zantha '47		190	1250
135	Miss California '36		237	1248
136	Cheerio '34		241	1244
137	Lake George '45	54	211	1243
138	Golden Ruffles '45	64	199	1235
139	Golden Spike '40		224	1227
140	Danube Wave '47		184	1221
141	Mary Vernon '42	57	206	1221
142	Lilac Lane '47	93	185	1220
143	Red Torch '47	63	192	1213
144	Mary E. Nicholls '39		225	1210
145	Brown Thrasher '41		233	1210
146	Pink Sensation '48		173	1207
147	Redward '42		212	1205
148	Louise Blake '43		221	1200
149	Red Gleam '39		226	1200
150	E. B. Williamson '37		239	1200

LONG TIME FAVORITES

Listed on 10 or more Symposiums

*Amigo	*Gloriole	*Sable
*City of Lincoln	*Golden Majesty	Sierra Blue
*China Maid	Golden Fleece	Snow Flurry
Christabel	Los Angeles	Spun Gold
Deep Velvet	Matterhorn	*The Red Douglas
*Elsa Sass	Missouri	Tiffany
*Fair Elaine	*Prairie Sunset	The Admiral
Golden Treasure	Red Valor	Violet Symphony
*Great Lakes	Shining Waters	*Wabash

* Listed 12 times, including the Hall of Fame which was given separately in 1950.

A PURSUIT OF PINEAPPLING

MRS. VICTOR PERINI, Calif.

Analysis of pineappling as it occurred in our iris garden gave birth to an active interest in this affliction that grew into some strong convictions—and theories that seemed rather radical in comparison to those already advanced. Last year we pursued these theories by practical application. The experiment yielded such interesting results that we are urged to present our findings.

We had noted a far greater incidence of pineappling in our iris than we had seen on any others. It was not unusual to lose forty per cent of our plantings. This high figure went even higher in the fall of 1950 when we counted forty afflicted plants in a new bed of sixty. Comparative observations with other iris gardens netted an accumulation of evidence, apparently peculiar to our garden, that could be conducive to this strange growth—for that is how we had come to look on pineappling, not as a disease (as such) but as uncontrolled growth.

Convinced that we would never find satisfaction in growing iris until we were freed from this plague we decided in desperation on a 'win all, lose all' program. If we couldn't grow iris we would try growing pineapples! The results from this point of view have been most satisfying and are herewith presented for consideration and criticism.

The entire garden was subjected to a test of our theories. Every clump was lifted for replanting and all that had been afflicted were disposed of, even those that had shown a tendency to produce unusual number of bloomstalks from a single rhizome, a common occurrence in our iris. One plot alone had been spared entirely, this was the original bed planted (before we had studied iris cultivation) with an inch or more of soil covering the rhizomes. We took rhizomes from this bed and, with an additional 150 purchased from dealers in widely separated areas and 50 more gathered from local gardens, replanted as follows:

The garden was terraced in three levels to overcome a natural underground drainage that kept the soil wet even though the entire area was exposed to full sun all day. Only single rhizomes were planted, simulating a circumstance wherein pineappling had been most prevalent. In the highest and driest level rhizomes were planted two inches deep; next highest at one inch and the lowest (which was ground level) the rhizomes were planted like 'ducks on the water' for here the ground retained water from the drainage. To forestall any question or possibility that stock from some sources might have a pre-disposition towards pineappling we planted some from each source in each level, and also some of a kind in each level. Further pre-determination was

accomplished by using earth from a single area wherein pineappling had flourished, to construct the three levels.

In the above arrangement we believe we had established three distinct variations of a combination of sun, moisture and chemical content of soil. Control groups were then planted in each level, with planting depth and moisture similar to other levels. All other factors were equal—feeding (bonemeal only) spraying and general care, caution being taken not to feed ‘bloom food’ because previous blooming seasons had produced stalks of unusual strength and height, and blossoms of huge size and rich color without any fertilization (artificial) whatsoever.

We were then ready for the ‘pineapple season’—those summer and fall months that had brought the plague in such prevalence to our iris in former years.

Five months after planting, these observations were noted:

The highest level had no pineappling at all—except in the control group that was comparable to the lowest level. Here the afflicted plants were those iris not given to fall blooming, that in some instances had put out a bloom, sometimes stunted, before pineappling set in. The fall bloomers had bloomed themselves out of existence and a China Maid formed rhizomes on an old bloomstalk and ultimately produced their own bloomstalks!

In the second, or middle, level no incidence of pineappling occurred except in the control groups. Here again the group afflicted was the one comparable to the lowest level, and that a notable fall bloomer escaped (though leaf growth was negligible) while right next to it one that has never bloomed in our garden in the fall was a victim.

The lowest level produced the most interesting and satisfying results as far as our tests were concerned, for here more than half of the rhizomes pineappled, both early and fall bloomers, but not one of the plants in the control groups were affected!

Examinations showed that root growth was not apparently affected in the early stages of the pineappling; that the affected rhizomes appeared firm and healthy but unusually large; that no insect nor worms were found in or around either the affected or unaffected plants; that leaf growth stopped entirely or matured very slowly where pineappling was present; and that the original pineapple-free plot was still unaffected but that the rhizomes taken from there became affected when grown in the lowest level and also that the affliction seemed irrespective of the former habitat of the rhizomes attacked.

All this evidence seemed to lend credence to our theory that a certain combination of sun on the rhizomes (a blooming factor) and excessive water (a growth factor) and available chemicals that stimulate bloom formation and development creates an irregular, uncontrolled bloom growth.

We then elevated this bed for drainage, carefully lifting the clumps to the new level, using the same soil; then covered the exposed rhizomes with an inch of soil. All signs of pineappling disappeared with but one exception—one that had been the most afflicted. A portion of this plot was left undisturbed for further observation, and a portion of the control groups were uncovered. Pineappling occurred in the latter.

We do not consider our findings conclusive in any degree, for there were many factors left unaccounted for and many to be further considered. Questions such as these must be answered: Was there any disease present in the soil and if so was the circumstance of the lowest level conducive to its development? Why were some plants spared when others of probably equal characteristics fell victims? Why did the Arils and plants of Aril strain escape entirely, as did the dwarfs? Is this plague confined to the tall bearded and intermediate sections everywhere as it is in our garden? Does cold weather halt pineappling? Is this the cancer of the plant world?

Winter has temporarily halted our experiments with heavy frosts and rains that keep us out of the garden, yet even now we are anticipating the next 'pineapple season,' using the interim to study iris and their diseases—a subject of which we have almost no practical knowledge, and therefore causes us to feel much like the questionable characters in the old saying, "fools rush in where wisemen fear to tread."

1952 Year Book

of

THE UTAH IRIS SOCIETY

(Your Host in Salt Lake City in 1954)

Articles by N. Leslie Cave, Tom Craig, Walter Marx, M. D. Naylor, Walt Foulger and others.

Many other features interesting and valuable to iris lovers everywhere.

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MAY 1952

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Cooley's

GARDENS

SILVERTON - OREGON

Dear Member of the A.I.S. ---

Most people like pictures.

The ancients decorated the walls of their caves, and every civilization down through the centuries had some form of art. You, today, in your own home, would think it a very dull place without pictures on the walls. Even the newspaper would present a drab and wearisome sheet without its daily wirephotos and comic strips. Life without pictures?...you just can't imagine such a thing!

Why bring this up?

Well, it seems that some folks would prefer to have Iris catalogs and advertisements without pictures. At least the argument is put forth that such colorful things add to cost and thus are an unnecessary luxury. Are they?

Stop and think a minute...suppose that, since the A.I.S. was formed 'way back in 1922 there had never been an Iris catalog with pictures--especially colored pictures. Old members will recall those beautiful catalogs of Quality Gardens in Freeport, Illinois, and of Carl Salbach, Robert Wayman, Lee Bonnewitz, Bruce Williamson and others. They, more than anyone else, drew widespread attention to the beauty and diversity of color in modern Iris. They really created the desire for gardeners to see these spectacular flowers in their own gardens.

With the coming of Kodachrome film the use of colored illustrations in catalogs became widespread. These same pictures, through advertising, were placed before the gaze of millions of readers of such magazines as House Beautiful, House & Garden, Better Homes & Gardens, American Home, Sunset, Flower Grower and Popular Gardening...a combined reader audience of well above 20 millions! These pictures fired the imagination and interest of these people and brought on a demand for editorial matter featuring Iris in these same magazines--a demand which was liberally met with numerous illustrated articles on Iris--and which resulted in still more and greater popularity for our favorite flower.

For twenty years Cooley's Gardens have been among the leading exponents of "Iris Catalogs in Color". They have been one of the largest users of Iris advertising space in national magazines. How has this affected the A.I.S.? Here are two figures: In recent seasons they have sold approximately 20% (1000 copies) of all the books, "The Iris, An Ideal Hardy Perennial", put out by the Society, and about 10% (500) of the entire membership of the A.I.S. was recruited and sent in by Cooley's Gardens. The only salesman was, and is, our catalog...in color!

THIS IS A PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Yes, color costs money. But, as we said at the start, most people like pictures. And far more than just a few of them--realizing that the best things in life are not always free--support the color-catalog dealer with a reasonable amount of patronage. Few dealers expect or want all the business; all are grateful for some support from time to time.

By the way, don't let anybody kid you into thinking that there is some dark and sinister method through which iris prices seem to be in more or less agreement. For years it has been our policy to follow the price set by the introducer or originator of a certain variety. He has spent time and effort and money to produce something to grace your garden and mine, and most ethical and fair minded dealers practice the custom of pricing with the introducer. It is that plain and simple--and honorable.

If you believe that good illustrations are a boon to Iris interest, if you enjoy seeing, in color, what the best of the new things look like--whether you buy or not--send 25¢ for the 1952 edition of our catalog. It is the finest one we have ever published and features 20 brand new big Kodachrome pictures of Iris never before shown in any catalog. Included in this new 48-page book are many of Dave Hall's startling Flamingo pinks and apricots; also two new Kleinsorge tans.

Now if you have been receiving our catalog for three years or more but have not ordered in the meantime, please be good enough to send 50¢ instead of twenty-five. That is what it costs us per copy to print and mail and it is the only way we can oblige those who appreciate getting the catalog year after year but do not send an order our way. Of course, the catalog is free to all old customers and the fee in any case is deductible from your first order. Send for your copy today.

Yours for better Iris, a better A.I.S.
and better and more color in catalogs!

COOLEY'S GARDENS


R. M. Cooley

Address your request to:
COOLEY'S GARDENS
Box 126-A
SILVERTON, OREGON

THIS IS A PAID ADVERTISEMENT

GROWING IRIS FROM SEED

JOHN PIERCE, Tenn.

If you do not grow iris from seed you are missing one of the greatest thrills in gardening. Let me tell you about my method, which might be called nature's method, for it really is wonderful for the lazy or busy man.

For the past five years I have planted iris seeds into their permanent positions rather than planting them in seed beds and transplanting later. I have found this to be a very satisfactory method. I have had seedlings which came up in March to bloom in October of the same year. My one year old seedlings nearly always make a better showing than the mature rhizomes planted the summer before. I get better growth, more increase, and a higher percentage of blooms the first year from the seedlings that have not been transplanted than I do from transplanted seedlings. I do not run the risk of failing to transplant them at the proper time and I do not have to worry about weather conditions as much. I have seen seasons that were too wet for transplanting at the proper time and then seasons when a drouth followed the transplanting causing great losses.

I prepare the ground in the summer that I intend to use in the fall for I do not like to plant in loose, unsettled soil. I stretch a cord the length of the patch in order to obtain a straight shallow trench. I place the seed three to four inches apart and when I have finished planting a cross I drive a good stake that will last two years or more. I make my rows about fifteen inches apart.

In early March when the ground is in condition, I take a sharp hoe and scrape off all the chickweed and winter vegetation before the seedlings begin to appear. After the seedlings are about an inch tall I use a small four-prong cultivator to keep the ground pulverized and free of weeds and grass. If a few skips occur, it is an easy matter to fill them in with seedlings from where they have come too thick. After I have worked them out the first time I put a little Vigoro right on the seedlings in order to get them off to a fast start. I think the secret of growing good seedlings is to never let them stop growing. This can be done by frequent cultivation and watering in case of drouth.

I never bother about seeds not germinating the first year for I leave the seedlings as they are for two years. However, the ones which obviously have no possibilities should be thrown out as they bloom to give more space to the others. In cases where there are a large percentage of second year germinations in a single cross I transplant. As a rule I throw out the few stragglers that germinate the second year.

HINTS ON SEED PLANTING

K. D. SMITH, N.Y.

I usually harvest my seed pods when they start splitting open. They are then spread out on the attic floor to dry and the windows are kept open for ventilation. If there is not a circulation of air many of the seeds in the pods will mold. I have found that even if the seeds are moldy they germinate normally when planted in earth but in embryo culture there is danger of contamination. The label showing the cross is kept with each pod.

When time permits, usually a rainy week end in late August, the seeds are shelled and each cross with the label is placed in a separate box or envelope. I always count the number of seeds from each cross and mark the number on the label. Before planting, I list each cross and the number of seeds in my stud book. It is also wise at this time to make labels for the cross so as to identify them when they are planted.

My seeds are planted in cold frames. These are set into the ground so that the inside soil is several inches below the level of the outside ground. The soil in the coldframes should be especially prepared and should be light and friable, Bone meal and dried cow manure may be added to advantage. I like to plant my seeds in early November, but before this is done the soil in the frames should be well watered and then redug a few days later. Seeds are planted one inch deep, an inch apart, with the rows six inches apart. If this is done 432 seeds can be planted in each three by six frame. I put the sash on immediately and do not water, because by well watering the soil several days before planting and then redigging the beds several days later the soil has just the right amount of moisture in it. It is most important that the soil be aerated during the winter and if it were watered my experience has been it will crust over and mold. The sash are left on undisturbed during the winter. Seeds start germinating in late March and then on warm days some ventilation is necessary. In early May, it is possible to remove the sash entirely.

Seedlings should be transplanted in June but not later (on Staten Island) than July 10th. They are transplanted into prepared beds 6 feet wide by 35 feet long. These beds will accomodate four rows of seedlings which are planted seven or eight inches apart. *If planted by June 30th and in these especially prepared beds 95% of the seedlings should bloom the following year, i.e. 2 years from the time of making the cross.*

In 1951 I planted two beds as described above. The seedlings taken from the coldframes had made wonderful root growth and started to grow

immediately after transplanting. In late November all had three to five side shoots and I am sure many of them will have at least two bloom stalks this spring. Other beds which I could not prepare until late summer and in which I could not plant the seedlings until September will have little or no bloom in 1952. Our open winter with freezing and thawing has heaved many of the September plantings out of the ground because of insufficient root growth. I find on Staten Island root growth is made in June, July and August and very little after that time. *So unless planting is done before July 1st, one must wait here an additional year for bloom.*

I advocate raising fewer seedlings and giving them better attention. The soil in the frames is most important because the seedlings must have good root growth, but it is also of prime importance to plant the seedlings in especially prepared beds. If the soil is heavy in the seedling beds it must be lightened, if sandy, humus must be worked in, and if on a hillside planting, such as mine, hyper-humus is necessary so that moisture can be retained. I always add bone meal to these beds and lately I have tried shredded cow manure to good advantage. By making the beds only six feet wide, with grass walks between of the same width, it is not only easy to keep them weeded but also to properly see and evaluate the seedlings at blooming time. Those seedlings receiving numbers are lifted as clumps in late June or very early July to another part of the garden where they can be put on display.

Irises take a great deal out of the soil and they cannot be grown indefinitely in the same place. Soils need replenishing which I have learned through bitter experience. Experience has also taught me that the one most important factor for rebuilding soil is compost; bonemeal and manure are beneficial, but if you really want to see your seedlings grow and bloom be generous with the compost! You won't regret it.

(As an experiment, a year ago, I planted some seeds in flats of Vermiculite and carried them over winter in my cool greenhouse. Germination was super-duper. These seedlings were transplanted in April into fertopots in which they came along very rapidly. For my purposes, this was a lot of trouble versus my usual coldframe method. For the small backyard gardener, with limited space, this might be worth-while. In any event, Vermiculite is a meritorious modern garden aid, of many diverse uses; perhaps its most important function is to stimulate root growth).

A long time ago, I have a faint recollection that one of the Sass brothers had a super-duper seedling which was either a sister or a child of Prairie Sunset. It had no increases and after blooming just plain died. Since that time I have had some excellent seedlings bloom which had no increases. I thought possibly if I gave the plant work to do (i.e. crossing on it and forming a seed pod) it would continue to live and

send out new growth. I have been very fortunate in doing so. Naturally this side growth occurs very late in the season; it does not always occur and when it does there is no bloom the following year. This practice has saved for me some very choice seedlings. The important thing is to leave the seed pod on the stalk as long as possible and not to disturb the rhizome.

Epilogue

In my iris travellings, I have seen seedlings wonderfully grown and also poorly grown. The finest seedlings were grown in England. These were originated by Mrs. Gwendolyn Anley and Mr. H. J. Randall, both residing at Woking, Surrey. The soil in Surrey is sandy and with its excessive rainfall this should seem ideal. But there are also periods of droughts. These problems have been solved by Mr. Randall. He has delivered to his garden all the leaves from the town that "fall in the fall" and his gardener digs them into the sand. He also uses spent-hops when he can get them. (How many of us know what spent-hops are?) And as a result Mr. Randall has the finest soil for growing anything, I have ever seen. All he lacks is a greater amount of sunlight and I for one would gladly pass over to him some of my excess. This soil building up, which Randall and I have copied comes from David Hall of Wilmette, and the many people who have seen his garden should realize its value.

The moral of this all is, we can only learn by experience if we wish to do so. And the less knowledge we have in the beginning the more chance we have for success if we are curious. Trial and error gives great knowledge if we can absorb it. Someone once said "Once tried—nothing; twice tried—experience." But we must also have knowledge to use experience.

* * * * *

CHATTANOOGA GROUP ORGANIZES

Members of the AIS in the vicinity of Chattanooga, Tennessee met at the home of Mrs. J. W. Judd February 2, 1952. Quarterly meetings are planned *for the purpose of studying the AIS Bulletin*. Organizers are Mesdames Claude Ravan, Kenneth Wey, W. O. Lyle, O. S. Miller, W. A. Luther, Paul Gillespie, R. E. Creighton, W. C. Gallman, C. R. Genung, M. M. McCord, Arthur Pope and J. W. Judd. Interested AIS members in the locality will be welcomed to the group.

IRIS BOOM ALONG THE CHATTAHOOCHEE

Within a few miles of that great southern metropolis Atlanta and slightly to the north and west there is the little village of Chattahoochee, Georgia. Some three hundred miles to the south lies the town of Chattahoochee, Florida. Between them flows a long river on its way to become a part of the Apalachicola which winds its way through dismal moss hung marshes to the gulf. The Chattahoochee River rises in Georgia and flows southwest until it reaches Alabama, thence it flows southward forming the boundary between these two great states. Near the point where it first reaches Alabama there are the sister cities of West Point, Georgia and Lanett, Alabama and close by are Shawmut, Langdale and Fairfax. People here speak of the country-side as the "Valley," for indeed to the west are the clay hills of Alabama, to the north are the last remnants of the Appalachians and to the east is Pine Mountain and Warm Springs made famous by the late Franklin Roosevelt. Of late the "Valley" has become so iris minded that now it is a veritable iris center.

Valley garden clubs have turned to the iris as their special flower and a program of public planting was begun when the West Point Garden Club made the first planting on the grounds adjacent to the monument to the Confederacy. In Fairfax the planting is at the local High School, at Langdale along the highway. To quote Mrs. Roland Heard of West Point, "All of our garden clubs here are about three years old, and I have never seen so much interest over one thing manifested so thoroughly in so short a time. But iris will do just that . . . When we are able to do so we plan to have a Valley wide iris project in addition to the local projects we now have."

"I want to express my appreciation for the July Bulletin. I have grown iris for twenty years but am just a new member of the AIS. I've had quite a struggle trying to find out what its all about and this last Bulletin has helped me so much. Why not have your 'Foreword' printed in pamphlet form to send to all new members?"

OUR FACE IS RED

ERRATA: On page 36 of Bulletin No. 124 there was published a list of the winners of the Dykes Memorial Medal. Inadvertently we omitted the 1929 winner—none other than our old favorite red DAUNTLESS, an introduction of your Editor's friend of long standing Mr. Clarence Connell, of Nashville, Tennessee. Our apologies to Mr. Connell!

NOTES FROM REGION 7

MRS. LEO REYNOLDS, Memphis, Tenn.

If we were in Grenada, Mississippi in January we might see iris blooming in winter because Sue Revell grows many of the rarer iris species and her stylosas ought to be in full bloom. But the best I can do in January here in Memphis is to peep out the kitchen door and see the green iris rows above the greener grass paths.

You may remember our garden in the good old days—how you hopped from plank to plank or stepped up to your shoe tops in mud. Our idea of planting winter grass (Italian rye) in the paths has proved more than a success. Now we are able to get in the iris garden without getting muddy any time of the season. This new system will be a welcome relief.

We feel this has been our most successful project to date. The iris rows are forty-eight inches apart and the paths about sixteen inches wide. This makes an adequate path and gives access for cultivation about the iris themselves. To keep the grass seeds from scattering and coming up among the iris Leo makes a frame of light boards which he drags along the paths between the iris rows. We have nine rows about one hundred and fifty feet long in the big garden and seven rows about thirty feet long in the little garden. Leo can go over the whole thing with the power mower in less than half an hour when he is feeling brisk.

At the end of the season we plow the rye under for humus and so fertilize the garden. These paths double the beauty of the garden. This easy method of beautifying the garden is important to us, especially because we can no longer plan and execute landscape effects that require hand care. We do everything except the planting and close up weeding with power tools.

In spite of the heavy losses of last year we have many lovely things to anticipate in the spring. We have John Pierce's Memphis Belle. It's a lovely pink from Fantasy and Pink Cameo—the largest, tallest, lustiest pink I've seen. It is so lusty in fact that it should be divided every year to keep the blossoms from crowding—just as you have to thin peaches. The flowers are beautifully shaped and don't flop about as so many of the taller pinks have a habit of doing. It is smooth and clear, takes its color directly from Fantasy.

We also have his Maid of Cotton, one of the finest pure whites I've seen in many a day. We have his Icecapade also, a beautiful pale blue but as poor a doer as Memphis Belle is a good one.

Memphis has a new hybridizer this year, Mr. E. R. Fox of 1663 Glenview. He has introduced Foxfire, a beautiful glowing yellow, child of Bryce Canyon and Ola Kala. It is a yellow that lights up a garden

without setting it afire. It has poise, shape, branching and is as lusty a grower as Memphis Belle, the kind of iris we need in our gardens.

All of us have seed from some fine sounding crosses that we have planted in spite of the inclement weather so be waiting with us to see what comes in 1953. And there should be plenty this spring from several of our growers. So much for the local talent in our garden.

When we made our trek to Sioux City in 1950 I lost my heart to two lovely visitors in Mrs. Whiting's garden—Corporal Mary and Northwestern. I now have them both and if this winter hurts them I don't know how I will bear it. I have always loved Dr. Graves' Lady Louise and it has performed beautifully for me, but I think Corporal Mary is even more appealing. Northwestern, a deep purple iris, made me gasp. It is tall without being rangy, dignified and beautifully proportioned. The color is even, beautiful and alive. The iris doesn't sprawl in any way but still isn't precise nor stilted. I feel so happy that Franklin Cook yielded to my importunings and let me buy one this year. By the way, it was one of the finest plants I ever bought anywhere.

Speaking of Franklin Cook I wish every one could see his planting of Pink Ruffles and the old light blue, Castalia. I could never even imagine anything lovelier than the long curve of Pink Ruffles backed by the slightly taller mass of Castalia. It is one of the most pleasing landscaping effects I have ever seen.

I think we will have to keep growing the older floriferous iris for landscapes. They seem to bloom and bloom in sun or shade. One of my favorite plantings is a border of old, old Wedgewood and Corrida, interspersed to give the effect of light and shadow. It borders the north side of the back path which is bordered on the south with dogwood trees so these iris get a minimum of sunshine. Yet they have been a mass of bloom, with no attention whatever, every spring for years. Mary Smith, garden editor of the Press Scimitar (Memphis) calls it the "Blue Walk."

Today being cold and dismal is just the day to ruminate on the glories of last year's garden. Memories will show up clearly against the neutral background of a grey day.

* * * * *

1952 AIS ANNUAL MEETING

The Dates; May 18-19-20.

The Place; St. Louis, Mo.

Headquarters; The Chase Hotel, Kingshighway and Lindell Blvds.

For Further Information

Contact Mrs. Walter Buxton, 817 So. Sappington Rd., Webster Groves 19, Mo.

REGION 13 NOTES

MRS. ALBERT P. HAASE, RVP

The Tacoma Club has been named the "Pierce County Iris Society," with Mrs. Milton Allen as President, and Mrs. Rose Dightman as Secretary-Treasurer. Twenty-one paid up members are meeting once a month for an educational program. The membership is open to any interested Irisarians.

* * * * *

The Iris Garden Club of Walla Walla won the sweepstakes prize for their float in the Southeastern Washington Fair Parade in September. Pinnacle, Helen McGregor, Pink Cameo, Ola Kala, Great Lakes, Lilac Lane, to mention a few, were some of the irises that graced the float, (paper of course), but people asked if they were real flowers. They said they did not know that irises bloomed at that time of the year! Incidentally, the club's treasury was enriched by \$100.00 in prize money.

* * * * *

The Purple Ribbon for Horticultural Achievement in recognition for her outstanding achievements was awarded to Mrs. Carl S. English, Jr. of Seattle by the National Federation of State Garden Clubs at the 1951 Washington State Convention.

Her original hybrid iris, aureonympho—"Golden Nymph," is a golden-flowered hybrid produced by crossing two native Oregon species of iris.

Mrs. English received her M.S. degree from Washington State College. She did research for the state of Washington on Pheasant and Grouse and the U. S. Forest Service on this region's Herbarium, food plants of Northwest, and conifer seeds for reforestation. She helped her husband catalog the trees and shrubs of Portland City Parks.

She is a writer of horticultural and botanical magazine articles and books; a radio speaker, lecturer, teacher and photographer for magazines and books, and was formerly editor of *Little Gardens*. Most of her recent lectures have been illustrated by color slides.

The high esteem in which both Mrs. English and her husband are held in botanical circles has won them friends and contacts around the world. *Northwest Gardens and Homes, Seattle.*

* * * * *

"BELIEVE IT OR NOT"

If any of you ever collected stamps, you have dreamed of some day finding an old trunk up in some attic where there were a lot of old, valuable stamps still on the covers. Well here is a story of finding some choice iris that was just as thrilling.

One day last summer, an Iris Fan (let us call her Mrs. Jones) read in the paper of an Auction to be held at a farm in the neighborhood. Oil had been found in four places on the farm, the owner had sold the property for \$250,000.00 and now was planning to sell all of his dairy stock, his farm implements and everything moveable.

Mrs. Jones was needing some barnyard fertilizer and decided to go to the auction to buy some, although it had been raining hard all the morning.

She drove away in her car and arrived to find very few people on account of the rain. Soon she saw a plot of iris growing in a fenced area and she went to look at them. On finding they were all labelled and very fine varieties, she asked the auctioneer if they were to be sold too. He assured her they would and soon put them up for sale, the bidder to take all.

One man started them at \$1.00 and Mrs. Jones quickly bid \$5.00 and suddenly the bidding ceased and the astonished lady had bought them all and was afraid she was going to faint.

A neighbor offered to dig and deliver what iris she wanted so with the help of two others she dug and took home 107 clumps. She left her car, forgot all about the fertilizer, and drove home in the truck with the iris. Her family at first thought she had lost her mind. She had iris clumps all over the garage floor, and in other places too.

The rest of the iris were left at the farm. She could not take care of any more. A few days later a man called her on the phone wanting to buy the rest of the iris. He also owned a dairy ranch and Mrs. Jones agreed to let him have all of the iris left in exchange for five loads of barnyard fertilizer delivered to her farm.

By this time she was wondering what to do with five loads of fertilizer and he was wondering how he could ever move all the iris left.

And here is a partial list of the iris she got and she took only one clump of each variety.

Fire Dance	Bryce Canyon	Solid Mahogany
Mellowglow	Blue Rhythm	Sunset Blaze
Cherie	Blue Valley	Star Shine
Extravaganza	Amandine	Rocket
Chivalry	Radiation	San Antone
Desert Song	Chamois	Ranger
Distance	La Golondrina	Pink Cameo
Dreamcastle	Zantha	Overture
Cahokia	Purple Moor	New Snow
Cape Bon	Tournament	Mattie Gates

This is a true story and only happens to us once in a life time, I guess. It is still hard for Mrs. Jones to believe that it could happen to her.

CANADIAN COMMENTS

LLOYD ZURBRIGG, Toronto, Ont.

Here at last is the garden report that I promised. Last year, the three outstanding iris in this region for me were Melody Lane, Cherie and Pretty Quadroon. Only the latter remained in that category this year. The form of the first leaves much to be desired, though its colour is lovely. The new Dykes Medal winner is a wonderful flower, but its growing habits have been unsatisfactory in Region 16 thus far. The only place where it did well was in our president's sandy soil in Hamilton. But the latter still gives every promise of a top-notch iris, a good grower, unlike its pollen parent, Tobacco Road. As an aside, can anyone explain why that name was given? (T. R.) It's the one iris name that I object to. Having read the play some years ago, I resolved never to grow the plant, nor to use its pollen. The former hasn't been hard but the latter has been a bit of a strain, since so many fine seedlings have been obtained from it.

For instance, Mr. Miles at Ingersoll has a gorgeous blend from it with Nancy Biehl, one of his own seedlings, as pod parent. This new plant had huge blooms on a short stem and was very reminiscent of its parent, or of Pretty Quadroon. Another in this garden was a rose bicolour that was neither tall nor well branched, but as personable an iris as you could imagine. It is flaring, frilly and ruffled and decidedly bicolour with bright rose falls.

45-1-Z is the bluest iris yet, but the stem is poor.

46-6 is the richest red I know, dark in tone, but its stem is rather rangy. Coming from 41-3 x Starless Night, it has the ideal haft, silken texture and a rich brown beard.

45-9-A was a fine "fancy" plicata, mulberry on white, with excellent habit.

There were a number of the new English introductions here in established clump. The Benton series of plicatas were a great disappointment, as they were last year. High Command, the variegata, though bright, failed to thrill me, and its stem is none too strong. Mr. Miles' iris have no protection from the wind, though, and if they can stand up here, they can stand anywhere. One such is Ballet in Blue. We look forward to his new planting in the shelter of evergreens.

At Mr. Bauckham's garden in Toronto Sierra Snow was the outstanding clump. Following a storm it was in fine condition when many others went down to defeat. Here was a interesting yellow bicolour from Golden Treasure and Mable Chadburn, or rather bitone, like Fair Elaine. Another promising seedling was a brown blend with violet signal from his Toranda.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bickle were justly proud of their deep rose blend from Mulberry Rose x Prairie Sunset. This is a colour gem with good stems and fast colour that should go places. Without a chart, I cannot describe it, but it is perhaps midway between the two parents in a deep shade. It made a gorgeous clump in a garden full of new things. Pinnacle was fine here, a good growing iris with a long season of bloom. I liked it much better this year than last, when its single stem was hardly rich enough in colour to make an impression.

The accent was on blues and whites in the seedling beds of Dr. Rolph in Weston. Here one white-white on the order of Priscilla pleased all. It is short, flaring and has a pure white haft and beard with yellow only inside the throat on the beard. Parentage is (Snow Flurry x (Snowking seedling x Matterhorn)). One of the biggest, tallest iris imaginable was a richer Violet Symphony. It had branching like a tree, strong stems and everything in proportion: Snow Flurry x Mount Assiniboine. The latter seedling of Dr. Rolph's is a giant from (Sensation x Buechley Giant) x Great Lakes. There was an odd seedling from The Red Douglas x Vice Regal, only 25 inches high. The large blooms had black-red falls bordered with the light wine-purple of the standards. The blackish haft and bronze beard were like Vice Regal; it carried no pollen.

Our president, Mr. Moffat, had quite a number of seedlings in his "field" garden. A pale blue from Elizabeth of England was semi-flaring, crimped, ruffled and flushed white in the center of each fall. This was perhaps the favourite among visitors. The cross Helen McGregor x Lynn Langford produced a second Helen McGregor. This one set the imagination going on possible crosses. There was also a fine deep violet-blue from Santa Barbara x Great Lakes that was very different and good in all points.

What puzzled everyone was how the pencilling and splashing of turquoise got on some of the blooms. It was particularly evident in the Chantilly x Lynn Langford cross.

The big attraction at Mr. Edmison's garden in Brighton were the pink seedlings from two crosses obtained from Mr. Muhlestein. If the few that bloomed this year are any indication of the average quality, it will be an even more exciting spot next year. One was the brightest orange-pink ever with beard to match. Another, a pale apricot, had an ideal stem and proved to have extremely fertile pollen, setting on Wabash and Great Lakes. The "old gold" mentioned in Mrs. Bickle's article in Bulletin No. 119 was putting on a brave show. It is about twice the size of Ola Kala with much the same form, colour and substance, but a broader haft. Its first bloom never opens until midseason. Mr. Edmison had a number of Elmohr seedlings but none that showed any onco. One of these was a fine tan self, that should be tried with other

onco-blooded things.

Mr. R. D. Little in Richmond Hill had a fine seedling on the order of Violet Crown that I want to see again this coming season. In his garden Vatican Purple was giving evidence of being a top-ranking iris.

Mr. E. O. Hall in London has a challenge for the newest reds that he is calling D-Day. It looked very promising indeed.

In closing, a summary of named varieties that pleased, as seen in the above mentioned gardens, and those of Rev. W. T. Corcoran, Mr. C. E. Little and Mr. Wm. G. Fleming: Red Torch, Lady Mohr, Sultan's Robe, Aldura, Inspiration (some gardens) Gaylord, Ballet in Blue, Helen McGregor (after two bad years), Black Forest, Priscilla, Camp-fire Glow. In my own garden the favourites were almost all low-priced: Golden Treasure, Mexico, Display, Snoqualmie, Angelus, Wayfarer, Great Lakes, Priscilla and Elizabeth of England. Calico was a center of interest and I found its brown beard intriguing. Edmison seedling No. 16 is a tall Gudrun with a touch of heliotrope in the fall, one of my favourites, but not much of a crowd-pleaser. Part of its charm, no doubt, is that it is a seedling from Wabash x Gudrun.

I picked only one star this year, an iris that left me cold last year, Cascade Splendor. It was splendid in four different gardens and it's too bad it was past voting for the Dykes Medal this season.

1952 Introductions

Autumn Brown. H.C. '49 (Aberdeen x Bryce Canyon)

A brilliant dark copper-brown blend with metallic sheen, slightly ruffled, flaring falls and heavy substance. Late mid-season. 38"

(Stock Limited) \$20.00 net

Violet Harmony. H.C. '48 (Snow Flurry x Cloud Castle)

A large ruffled violet self with semi-flaring falls, closed standards and sturdy stalk. A vigorous grower with an exceptionally long season of bloom. Mid-season. 40"

\$15.00

Yellow Diamond. H.C. '48 (Her Grace x Golden Majesty)

A soft light yellow self, with pleasing rounded form, wide haft and good substance. The clarity of color is uniform throughout. No veining. Late mid-season. 38"

\$10.00

Note: See A.I.S. Bulletins 111 Page 15, 123 Page 18

N. E. Bulletins Dec. 1950 Page 22,

July 1951 Pages 12, 13, 16.

LOWRY GARDENS

62 WALNUT PARK

NEWTON 58, MASS.

K. D. SMITH *1952 Introductions*

MARDI GRAS (1952) Sdlg. 8-33 (Extravaganza x 5-30 [Mme Maurice Lassailly x Ilse Louise]).

A colorful late blooming neglecta deeper in color than Helen Collingwood. The standards are light campanula violet, arched and silken, the falls of dark velvet purple are semi-flaring and have a smooth brown overlay at the haft. The flowers, 5 inches wide and 4½ inches long, are well spaced on the 40 inch stalk. Very outstanding \$25. NET

SERENE VALLEY (1952) Sdlg. 50-12 (Keene Valley x Jane Phillips).

A large, beautifully formed and ruffled light blue self, lighter than Keene Valley in color. The falls are semi-flaring and the ruffled standards are semi-conical, thus enabling them to shed rain. The fragrant flowers, 7 inches in width and 6 inches in length, without venation, are on a nicely branched 41 inch stalk. Very vigorous. The reverse cross of Lady Ilse and much earlier to bloom. The trilogy of Keene Valley, Lady Ilse and Serene Valley, all different, I consider the finest blues I have originated. H.C. 1951 \$25. NET

SPELLBINDER (1952) Sdlg. 51-59 (Amandine x Gold Ruffles).

An exquisite iris—the standards and underside of the rather flaring falls are light naphaline yellow so that against the light it gives a chartreuse effect. But actually the top surface of the semi-flaring ruffled falls is oyster white so that the flower is a reverse bi-color. The green gold lines at the haft, with the green midrib of the standards, intensifies the contrasting colors of lemon yellow and oyster white. The entire flower has a picoteed and fluted edge of bright yellow gold that is most effective. Flowers are 5¾ inches wide and 5¼ inches long, are on a 34 inch stalk with four branches. Medium late. \$25. NET

Shipments are made by Parcel Post, Special Handling after July 4th.

Terms: Cash with order.

KENNETH D. SMITH

BENEDICT ROAD, DONGAN HILLS

STATEN ISLAND 4, N.Y.

Hybridizers Medal American Iris Society 1947
Gold Medal, Gardens on Parade, N.Y. Worlds Fair 1939
3 Gold Medals, Horticultural Society of New York
2 Awards of Merit, Royal Horticultural Society (England)
7 Awards of Merit, American Iris Society

K. D. SMITH *Introductions*

GOLDEN HAWK ('51) Bright primrose yellow self, overlaid with metallic gold. No venation. Cupped standards, semi-flaring falls. Very smooth, large flower on 44-inch stalks. Four branches, midseason, H.C. 1950 \$30. NET

LADY ILSE ('51) Large ruffled flower of powder-blue with an iridescent sheen. No venation. 41 inches, three branches; late midseason. (Jane Phillips x Keene Valley). \$25. NET

HELEN COLLINGWOOD ('49) A beautiful neglecta with light lavender standards and brilliant violet-purple falls. Entirely different, 40 inches, four branches; late mid-season, H.M. 1950 \$17.50

KEENE VALLEY ('49) Large flowers with a wide haft and really blue in color. Not only a fine parent but outstanding as an exhibition stalk. 42 inches. (sister seedling Blue Valley) H.M. 1950 \$17.50

GOLDEN DAYS ('49) A large brilliant yellow with substance like leather. Not tall, only 32 inches, but its large flowers make it command attention. Fine parent. \$7.50

FALL DAYS ('47) A symphony in rose and gold. Nothing can compare with it as a clump. H.M. 1947 \$7.50

STATEN ISLAND ('47) A very bright variegata now considered the top in its class. A.M. Royal Hort. Soc. '50 A. M. '51 \$6.00

ADMIRATION ('46) Very clean smooth yellow. Late. H.M. 1947 \$4.00

KENNETH D. SMITH

BENEDICT ROAD, DONGAN HILLS

STATEN ISLAND 4, N.Y.

*Note: I do not issue a catalogue, or sell
Iris originated by others.*

*AIS members are always welcome
to my hybridizer's garden.*

Height of season May 28th - 30th.

SHUTTERBUGS HURT BUT REORGANIZING

AIS BULLETIN Number 120 of January 1951, page 73 carried the idea of forming an Iris Slide Round Robin. One was soon formed consisting of twelve members covering well the U.S.A. Using an Eastman compartment file, each Robin member contributed some twenty unmounted slides to their individual section. A letter of explanation of round robin type also followed and the slides were on a three trip per year schedule when suddenly they disappeared from the U. S. mails between J. Ackerman of Lansing, Michigan and Gretchen Smith of Twin Falls, Idaho. At that particular time the slides were insured for \$50.00 and the Post Office Department is paying the claim.

After a delay of two months the group is reorganizing and a new start will be made from Lansing. As a result the twelve members each lost a complete set of slides to some thief and we seem to have learned to insure The Robin for at least fifty cents per slide.

INTERNATIONAL SLIDE ROBIN

With the help of Mrs. Jean Stevens through the New Zealand Iris Bulletin, our own AIS and any other foreign publication which might like to carry the idea, I believe an International 2 x 2 slide Round Robin could be formed and successfully operated on a one trip a year basis. I would like to hear from those interested, especially in foreign lands, who would agree to pay postage to the next Robin designated. Do not send slides with application, but wait until the slide box arrives. You will have a compartment for twenty unmounted slides and after the robin makes a complete trip you remove your old slides and add new ones. We can use more members in the states, but please specify if you want in the International Robin. Those interested please write Orville M. Baker, 810 Litchfield, Wichita 3, Kansas.

A GONE GOPHER

For over a year I have had the problem of gophers moving in and establishing their homes under my side walks. My compost pile which is well supplied with earth worms has made select living quarters for these burrowing friends. Setting gopher traps has been without results and I had used Cynogas but the cartridges were not available. I did get some poison peanuts under the trade mark MO-GO and Sweeney's Poison Wheat which when used as per directions have done the job here. Gopher activities have ceased after the first application. It is also supposed to be as effective for moles, mice and rats.—ORVILLE M. BAKER, 810 Litchfield, Wichita. Kansas.



One of the loveliest gardens to be visited on the hemerocallis tour will be that of Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton. Mr. Knowlton (second from right) recently re-elected Vice-President of the AIS, is shown here with (left to right) Mrs. P. E. Corey, Mrs. Franklin Lowry and Prof. John Dolman.

THE HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY

The Annual Meeting of The Hemerocallis Society will be held at Boston, Mass. July 23rd to July 26th inclusive with headquarters at the Hotel Somerset. Registrations will take place at the hotel on July 23rd starting at 2 P.M.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, visits will be made to gardens displaying hemerocallis. New York, New Hampshire, and Vermont hemerocallis gardens may be visited either before or after the Annual Meeting.

A full schedule will be sent to all members. For further information, write to O. R. Howe, Jr., Holliston, Mass.

GUEST IRIS, INVITATION TO HYBRIDIZERS AND INTRODUCERS

Guest Iris for display at the 1954 Convention of the American Iris Society to be held at Salt Lake City will be received, planted, cared for and returned as specified below.

They will be received at any time from June 20 to August 15, 1952 or between those same dates of 1953.

They will be planted by Accredited Judges of the American Iris Society in a garden which will be on the Official Program of garden visitation.

They will be cared for by Accredited Judges of the American Iris Society at all times, and every reasonable effort will be made to increase and bloom them to the greatest advantage.

All Guest Iris and their increase will be and remain the property of the person sending them as such, and as soon as he shall request after adjournment of the 1954 Convention they will be shipped wherever and by such means of transportation as he may direct.

Reports of the health and increase of all plants and opinion of its several characteristics will be given in writing to the owner whenever requested.

All Guest plants will be correctly labeled in uniform style. Those received from one person will not be mingled with those of another, but will be grown in a separate plot which will be identified as his.

Each plant must be labeled by the sender as he desires it to be labeled by the host grower.

All Guest Iris will be given at least as careful attention as is given those of the host garden, but no one, neither the Utah Iris Society, any of its members or any other person will be liable or accountable for damage to or destruction or loss by any cause of any plant.

All Guests must be consigned to Utah Iris Society, 1422 Military Way, Salt Lake City, Utah. Acknowledgement of delivery will be made immediately following arrival.

ROUND ROBIN ON TABLE IRIS

Irisarians interested in assembling and sharing information concerning Table Iris should contact Mrs. David K. White, Rt. 2—Box 74, Fallbrook, California. Mrs. White is organizing a Round Robin for the purpose of stimulating interest in the small bearded hybrids that are so valuable for indoor decoration.

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

MEETING OF DIRECTORS

Hotel Hermitage, Nashville, Tennessee, November 10, 1951.

The meeting was called to order by Judge Guy Rogers, presiding.

The following represents the roll call: Joe House, Carl Schirmer, W. J. Moffat, Harold Knowlton, Geddes Douglas, Guy Rogers, Don Waters and Marion Walker.

The Board was pleased to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Buxton, of Webster Groves, Missouri. Mrs. Buxton is Regional Secretary for Region 18 and Mr. Scott and Mrs. Buxton personally made a report of preparations being made for the 1952 meeting in St. Louis. The Board was pleased to accept the report and congratulated Mr. Scott and Mrs. Buxton upon their efforts.

Judge Guy Rogers read a letter from Director Robert E. Allen in which Mr. Allen tendered his resignation as a member of the Board of Directors. The Board voted to accept Mr. Allen's resignation. Thereupon Mr. Guy Rogers appointed Mr. Jesse Wills to serve as Interim Director. The Board unanimously approved the appointment.

President Rogers called for the Treasurer's Report. This report was read to the Board by Mr. Schirmer and upon motion by Mr. Joe House, seconded by Mr. Jesse Wills the report was accepted and the Secretary was instructed to have it copied into the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

AIS Statement for first ten months of year 1951

Receipts for January	\$1,628.56
February	3,697.35
March	3,056.97
April	1,200.30
May	1,567.37
June	1,590.83
July	2,382.47
August	988.53
September	412.63
October	686.46
TOTAL RECEIPTS	17,221.47
Balance carried forward	1,575.30
TOTAL	\$18,796.77
Disbursements for January	\$ 858.90
February	2,641.69
March	1,045.71
April	3,283.29
May	961.32

June	832.73
July	1,171.00
August	1,119.34
September	2,720.45
October	913.39
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$15,547.82
Total balance on hand in bank	\$ 3,248.95
Petty Cash account at Nashville office	1,000.00
TOTAL BALANCE ON HAND	\$ 4,248.95
(Signed) CARL O. SCHIRMER, <i>Treasurer</i>	

Report of the Exhibition Committee by Mrs. Fern Irving was read to the Board by Secretary Douglas and upon motion by Mr. Schirmer, seconded by Mr. Knowlton the report was accepted.

Mrs. Irving, Chairman of the Exhibition Committee also made two suggestions to the Board. The Board acted upon the first suggestion and the following motion was made by Mr. Schirmer. In view of the rising cost of medals and engraving, beginning with 1952 a Silver Medal Certificate and Bronze Medal Certificate will be substituted for the actual medals which have been given award winners of exhibitions in the past. These medals are awarded under the direction of the Exhibition Committee. The resolution also called for the stipulation that the medals be made available to the winners of the certificates at cost. Upon motion by Mr. Joe House, seconded by Mr. Wills the Board authorized the Exhibition Chairman to have all Exhibition Certificates signed by the President and the Chairman of the Awards Committee as are other certificates as Award of Merit, etc. The Secretary was further instructed to copy the report from the Exhibition Chairman into the minutes.

1951 Annual Statement—Exhibition Committee

Receipts:

Sale of cards, tags, ribbons, booklets, etc. \$196.82

Expense:

Exhibition supplies—

cards, tags, ribbons, etc. \$194.35

Engraving—extra 1950 3.05

Refund to Sacramento 2.55

Office supplies & postage 80.54

\$280.49

This statement does not include the booklets which were printed elsewhere, but is otherwise complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

(Signed) FERN T. IRVING, *Chairman*

Milliken Gardens

385 W. COLORADO ST., ARCADIA, CALIF.

IRIS • HEMEROCALLIS

A GOOD COLLECTION

GROUP I—\$7.00 TO \$10.00

GOLD SOVEREIGN
SPRING ROMANCE
MOHR BEAUTY
RAVEN WING

GROUP II—\$5.00 TO \$6.00

RELENTLESS
BLUE VALLEY
CARABELLA
TWILIGHT SKY

GROUP III—\$3.00 TO \$4.00

CHIVALRY
DISTANCE
GOLD RUFFLES
GYPSY ROSE

HELEN McGREGOR
RUSSET WINGS
FOREST VIOLET
OLD CRANBERRY

SELECT 1 from GROUP I

SELECT 1 from GROUP II

SELECT 1 from GROUP III

\$15.00, postpaid.

Send for Catalogue in Color

IRISLAND'S 1952 INTRODUCTIONS

LOUISIANA IRIS

MICCO (C. Dormon 1952) A larger and deeper red than its parent, Bayou Vermilion. 6½" slightly ruffled velvety flowers of flaring form, with a narrow gold line through the broad sepals, make a lovely creation. 34" \$5.00

WOOD VIOLET (R. Dormon) An unforgettable wood-violet like no blue of this earth. 5" blooms of excellent flaring form, carried on 32" stalks \$5.00

TALL BEARDED IRIS

ALI BABA (David Lyon '52) (Ranger x Cordovan #D204-47-8)
The bright red Ali Baba is a sister seedling to the deep maroon variety The Mad Hatter with standards of spectrum taupe and falls of velvety garnet brown. Well branched and will not burn in sun \$18.00

EMPRESS EUGENIE (David Lyon '52) (Char-Maize x Cordovan)
This Iris is of the deepest Empire yellow self, with an intense buttercup yellow beard. Graceful arched standards, broad falls of smooth heavy texture with saucer flaring form, have no haft markings to mar its beauty. \$15.00

Illustrated catalogue on request

LYON IRIS GARDENS

7041-R Woodman Avenue

Van Nuys, California

OZARK IRIS GARDENS

We have bought the commercial garden of Dr. Lewis Clevenger of Kirksville, Missouri. We will move the entire planting to Ozark, Arkansas and there will be thousands of rhizomes that we will not have room for. This will be a hobby garden and we will sell only our surplus rhizomes. We are offering many of these at half price so that we will not have to plant them when they are moved. Send for free list.

OZARK IRIS GARDENS

JACK GREER

OZARK, ARKANSAS



THIS IS

Broadripple

Luxuriant aster-blue giant.
Nobly proportioned but not coarse.
Substance thick and enduring.

Our catalog, free to AIS members, features the most comprehensive list of iris of any dealer including Siberian and Japanese; plus daylilies in large variety. Write

Edenwald Gardens

DEPT. I, VINCENNES, INDIANA

CANOGA *Iris Gardens*

INTRODUCING Mrs. Douglas Pattison's

BRONZE SYMPHONY—(Pattison 1952) 36". Brilliant, glowing copper self. Distinct from other coppers. Flowers of fine form and heavy substance. Semiflaring—Ruffled. (Patrice x Copper River) **Net \$15.00**

WHITE PEACOCK—(Pattison 1952) 40". Large, ruffled blue-white flowers of smooth finish. Tall and well branched. Very Lovely. (Katherine Fay x Lady Boscawen) H.C. 1949 under name White Christmas. **Net \$20.00**

Mrs. Otto Stuetzel

8239 TOPANGA CANYON BLVD. CANOGA PARK, CALIFORNIA

President Rogers reported to the Board that Mr. Robert E. Allen had resigned as Registrar and Recorder and that he had appointed Mrs. George D. Robinson as Registrar and Mrs. Walter Colquitt as Recorder. The Board unanimously approved the two appointments.

Report from the new Registrar was also read and approved by the Board and a new Registration Committee was appointed to assist Mrs. Robinson in her work and to formulate rules and regulations for the conduct of her office. The Board delegated to this committee complete authority relative to obsolete names and any matters concerning registrations. President Rogers appointed Mr. Harold Knowlton, Mr. Jesse Wills and Mrs. George Robinson to compose this committee; Mr. Knowlton, Chairman. These appointments were confirmed by unanimous action of the Board.

Judge Rogers called for a report from the Awards Committee. The report was made personally by Mr. Knowlton, Chairman. It was accepted by the Board and approved. Mr. Knowlton made the following motion which was seconded by Mr. Joe House. That the rules governing the awarding of the Dykes Medal be amended so that the last line thereof shall read as follows: "Has received the Award of Merit, Mary Swords Debaillon Award, Caparne Award or the Morgan Award not more than four full years prior to the award year." Mr. Knowlton reported that he had taken up the question of the Dykes Medal Award with relation to the iris Pinnacle with the authorities of The Iris Society (England) and they had held to their stipulation that the Dykes Medal would be only available to varieties originating in North America. Mr. Knowlton suggested that an extra notation be made on the 1952 ballot that Pinnacle was not eligible for the Dykes Medal. Mr. House made a motion that Mr. Knowlton's suggestions be carried out, seconded by Mr. Moffat; passed.

Mr. Knowlton discussed at length the problems concerning the Symposium and suggested to the Board that the Symposium be made a popular symposium to the whole membership. Mr. Knowlton gave various ways of tabulation and upon motion by Mr. Schirmer, seconded by Mr. House the Board directed Mr. Knowlton to hold the 1952 Symposium on the new basis allowing every member of the Society to vote in the Symposium and the results to be counted and the irises be tabulated according to the numerical position in the Symposium. The Board empowered the Awards Committee to work out the rules covering the conduct of this Symposium with reference to the list of irises eligible and the computation of the votes. The results of the 1951 Symposium were presented to the Board and the Board approved the list presented by Mr. Knowlton. The Awards published first in pamphlet form and second in the Bulletin were also approved by the Board of Directors upon motion by Mr. House, seconded by Mr. Waters.

At the instigation of the Species Committee of The Society for Louisiana Irises Dr. Clare Brown wrote the Directors of the American Iris Society and suggested that a research project be instituted, formulated and begun to determine the number of species in Southern, Gulf Coast Louisiana Irises and their inheritance factors. Report from Dr. Lee Lenz, Chairman of the Species Committee of the American Iris Society was read to the Board. The report was accepted and approved. The Board authorized the Secretary to write to Dr. Clare Brown expressing our sympathy with the project and its aims lending him every encouragement possible by the Society. However, the Board of Directors felt that at the present time due to the publication of the Check List and the expenses attached thereto that the Society could not go into a definite financial arrangement. The Board also felt that the project should be begun by the Louisiana people and it should be presented to the Society in a little more advanced condition before we could assist financially.

A letter from Dr. Randolph, Chairman of the Scientific Committee, was read to the Board in which he made four specific recommendations. The Board accepted Dr. Randolph's report and upon motion seconded by Mr. Waters appropriation of \$100.00 was voted for maintenance of the Scientific Committee activities at Ithaca during 1951. The Board then acted upon the suggestion made by Chairman Randolph concerning the Ike Nelson scholarship fund. After considerable discussion the following resolution was adopted unanimously: That Dr. Randolph be empowered to use the balance of his 1951 budget of \$100 in the furtherance of this project and as much of the 1952 allotment to the Scientific Committee as he sees fit. That the Secretary and Dr. Randolph be empowered to contact the Society for Louisiana Irises in an effort to evolve a plan for the raising of the balance of the scholarship fund.

Report of the Slides Committee was read to the Board by Secretary Douglas. Financial bank balance of \$662.25 was noted. The report was received and approved. Mr. Don Waters of Elmore, Ohio was appointed Chairman of the Slides Committee for 1952. Appointment was approved.

Secretary Douglas reported to the Board that in many instances the Board needed a direct contact with the Regional Vice-Presidents for the purpose of furthering the Society's affairs. Judge Rogers appointed Dr. Franklin Cook as coordinator of regional activities and with his duties to be defined in a letter to be written to him at a later date by the President.

In response to certain criticisms concerning the position of ads in the Bulletin Editor Douglas explained that the ads were placed in various positions in the Bulletin due to the fact that we had the space at the ends of articles and that the Editor felt that the advertiser was due something for his money. Mr. House recommended that an index of



Guy Rogers, recently re-elected President of the AIS for 1952, stands behind a superb clump of Chivalry in his Wichita Falls (Texas) garden.

advertisers and an index of illustrations be added to the contents of the Bulletin and an additional charge be made to the advertiser for the use of the advertising index. Motion was seconded by Mr. Moffat and passed unanimously.

A copy of the 1949 Iris Check List was delivered to the Board of Director's Meeting by Hessey Printing Company along with an estimate of its cost. This letter was read to the Board and the cost of printing, assembling and mailing was approved. Editor Douglas suggested to the Board that the price of \$2.50 per book to each member be approved. Upon a motion by Mr. Jessie Wills, seconded by Mr. Don Waters it was unanimously approved.

Upon a motion by Mr. Joe House, seconded by Mr. Harold Knowlton the Board voted to set up 50 free memberships to be used for advertising the activities of the Society. These free memberships are to be awarded to individuals and agencies within the United States and also in foreign countries. The motion set forth that the Secretary be empowered to award the free memberships to foreign applicants only and the Chair appointed Mr. Joe House as a committee of one to formulate the list of free memberships to be given within the United States. Such list is to be furnished the Secretary at Mr. House's convenience.

The chair called for the Secretary's report. The report was read by Mr. Douglas. Upon motion by Mr. House, seconded by Mr. Walter it was unanimously approved.

Secretary's Membership Report — November 1, 1951

	Nov. 1, 1950	Nov. 1, 1951
Renewals	2490	2650
New Members	1084	844
Family	221	250
Sustaining	199	168
Canadian	83	55
English	50	55
Life	67	67
Others paid before		
current calendar year	436	227
	<u>4630</u>	<u>4316</u>
July to July Non-renewals	163	651

The Chair called on Mr. Scott for a report from the Membership Committee. Mr. Scott told the Board of the letter that was sent to the various judges asking for suggestions as to how to further the AIS interest with the view of obtaining new members for 1952. After tabulation of these answers Mr. Scott was able to make the following concrete suggestions to the Board to be adopted as a plan for an increase in new members

W A N T E D !
COPY OF DYKE'S MONOGRAPH
THE GENUS IRIS

Advise condition of volume
 and price asked

W. F. SCOTT, JR.

3 Sassafras Lane, Ferguson 21, Missouri



IRIS—PEONIES
HEMEROCALLIS
POPPIES—BULBS

Free Colorful Catalog

C. F. WASSENBERG
VAN WERT, OHIO

"The Peony City"

CLEVENGER *Iris Garden*

To my Iris Friends; I have sold my entire commercial iris garden to **MR. JACK GREER** of Ozark, Arkansas. Mr. Greer is an ardent iris lover and will appreciate your orders. Write to him for his list and prices. This transaction cancels my 1/2 price offer.

I will continue to hybridize and sell iris seeds from choice crosses, scientifically made. I specialize in fine crosses involving the new pinks. My crosses really produce good results.

Write for leaflet.

DR. LEWIS CLEVENGER

Kirksville, Missouri

Introductions - - 1952

HIGH SEAS '51 H.C.—Silky, ruffled, blue-white. Up to 12 large blooms on 40 inch stalks. Early. **\$15.00**

CALDERA—Bright, coppery brown. Good size, form, some ruffling. Good increase and performance. **\$10.00**

BIRD SONG—Bright, floriferous plicata. Contrast of red-violet standards, pure white, flaring falls edged narrowly with red-violet. Medium size, border type. **\$10.00**

JACK FROST '51 H.C.—'49, H.M. '51 Horizontally flaring, crisp and white. An individual Iris. **\$12.50**

BAY STATE '49 H.C.—'46, H.M. '49 Tall, clean light blue with an "exhibition" stalk. **\$7.50**

Any questions gladly answered.

MRS. PRESTON E. COREY

707 PEARL STREET

READING, MASS.

for 1952: let the 1952 membership campaign be based upon activity at the local level created by the Accredited Judges of the Society; let this activity include as its major items, the formation of local organizations, the staging of more iris shows, the staging of more iris talks and slide showings, organize garden tours and local visiting committees. Further that AIS membership application be made available at all gardens on the open garden list and at all accredited iris shows. It was suggested that Mr. Scott prepare a tabulation of the suggestions made by the Accredited Judges in the recent poll conducted by the Membership Committee and that this tabulation be included in his report and spread upon the minutes. Upon motion by Mr. Marion Walker, seconded by Carl Schirmer the report was accepted and the suggestions were adopted. Judge Rogers instructed the Membership Committee to act upon these suggestions in cooperation with the central office at Nashville.

The Chair called for a report on the Judges Handbook and as Dr. Cook was not at the meeting no report was to be had. Mr. Scott volunteered to assist Dr. Cook in the early completion of the Handbook.

After considerable discussion the motion was made by Mr. Joe House and seconded by Mr. Moffat that the Distinguished Service Medal of the Society should be awarded to Dr. L. F. Randolph and that the Hybridizers Medal be awarded to Mrs. Thomas Nesmith and Mr. Eric Nies. The motion was carried unanimously.

The president reported that the Society had received various invitations from cities for the annual meeting and that the following schedule had been definitely adopted: 1953, Boston; 1954, Salt Lake City; 1955, Hamilton—Toronto, Canada; 1956, Southern California, probable headquarters Pasadena; 1957, Kansas City.

The Board also voted to defer consideration of invitations from Cleveland, Ohio and the Mississippi—Memphis group.

The Chair appointed Mr. Joe House as a committee of one to investigate the feasibility and probability of having a three cent stamp made by the United States government with an iris on it.

The Chair also appointed Joe House as attorney for the American Iris Society to secure a Certificate from the U. S. Treasury Department showing that the American Iris Society is an eleemosynary institution and is not required to pay income taxes.

The motion was made and unanimously passed that the 1953 Membership List be published as a separate and fifth issue of the Bulletin and charged for at the rate of \$1.00 per copy.

Mr. House moved that the election of the following Directors be confirmed: Mr. Harold Knowlton, Dr. L. F. Randolph, Dr. Matthew C. Riddle and Mr. Carl O. Schirmer.

The Board asked Mr. House to write a resolution thanking Mr. C. G. White for his gift of \$100.00 to the Society and asked Mr. Harold

Knowlton to write an expression of sympathy to Mrs. Sydney Mitchell upon the death of Dr. Mitchell.

The Board empowered Judge Rogers to appoint the following RVP's subject to their acceptance.

- Region 1--Mr. George Pride
- Region 5--Mrs. Isabelle Bowen Henderson
- Region 6--Mr. Earl E. Evans
- Region 8--Mrs. William Peterson
- Region 16--Mrs. William McCann
- Region 18--Mr. Scott (Acting)

Upon motion by Mr. House, seconded by Mr. Moffat the present officers of the American Iris Society were renominated for their several positions; to wit

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Mr. Guy Rogers | President |
| Mr. Harold Knowlton | Vice-President |
| Mr. Carl O. Schirmer | Treasurer |
| Mr. Geddes Douglas | Secretary-Editor |

to hold offices until their successors are elected and qualified. Unanimously passed.

Motion for adjournment was made, duly seconded and passed.

LONGFIELD IRIS FARM
Proudly Presents for 1952

GOLD SMOKE (Clarke) A lustrous golden russet.	\$15.00
HELEN LOUISE (Lapham C-19) Deep salmon pink with deep red tangerine beard.	\$15.00
NORAH (Lapham C-16). A luscious apple blossom pink with tangerine beard.	\$15.00
SABLE NIGHT (Cook). Black as the night, velvety as sable.	\$15.00
SKY ABOVE (Cook). The cleanest! The bluest! The loveliest!	\$15.00
DWARF	
PROMISE (Cook 4300). The pink arenaria hybrid!	\$3.00

LONGFIELD IRIS FARM
BLUFFTON 9, INDIANA

Visitors always welcome—Peak bloom May 30.
Catalogue sent upon request.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

THE BULLETIN welcomes questions from its readers. The answers are from a panel of experts selected from The Staff, Committee Chairmen, the Board of Directors, Officers of the Society and other sources. Address your questions to The Editor, American Iris Society, Franklin Rd., Brentwood, Tenn.

Q. *I raise iris in an arid region with alkaline soil and excessive heat in summer. After blooming this year (the second for my iris) I fertilized with cottonseed meal as I felt it contained the elements our soil needed (ours has sufficient potash). As I did not feel any need for care in avoiding it I used the meal close to the rhizomes or touching them. All my watering is by irrigation as we have negligible rain, the rhizomes are set with tops level with the ground.*

I had several rhizomes to rot and I wonder if you could tell me if the cause could have been the use of the cottonseed meal. What would you recommend as an alternative if that could have been the cause? I have heard it said that bone meal is recommended because it can't hurt anything but with enough potash already it seems there should be something else more beneficial here. I don't like to use manure so I haven't but I use peat moss and when I can, compost in conjunction with some kind of food, Bacrex on my regular flower border but I have my iris in a separate bed.—MRS. CHAS. F. HENDERSON, Texas.

A. I note with interest your experience using cottonseed meal as a ground conditioning agent in growing iris. Of course, one can never be sure about these things but I believe I can spot your trouble. Before cottonseed meal or any other organic matter can be available for plant food, it necessarily must go through a decomposing period. The germs that cause cottonseed meal to rot in the ground ordinarily might be expected to attack an iris rhizome and cause it to rot too. Next year why don't you experiment a little bit. Select a piece of ground early in the spring, apply whatever organic material that you want to and give it a chance to decompose in the soil before your iris are planted in that particular place. I would say that this would take at least ninety days and the soil should be thoroughly worked so as to expose the surface to the sun several times. This will eliminate the bacteria after they have done the work of decomposing the organic material.

Q. *Could you tell me where I could find a list showing names of iris suited for an arid region with strong winds, so many just don't have good enough substance to withstand our winds. I do want to*



Of the species *Variegata* Hans Sass once wrote "All colors except blue come from this plant." This clone grown in the Editor's garden came originally from seed germinated by Paul Cook. The bloomstalks seldom grow over 12 in. in height. The plant blooms over a long period of time, for it makes successive sets of bloomstalks if given sufficient water.

photo by caldwell

tell you that my iris is the one plant I have which can take our extremely difficult growing conditions and give beautiful, generous and spectacular bloom.—MRS. CHAS. F. HENDERSON, Texas

- A. I thoroughly understand the need for varieties with heavy substance and short stems for growing in Texas. Why don't you get in touch with your Regional Vice-President, Miss Willie Birge of 2408 Neuces Street, Austin, Texas and see if it isn't possible to conduct a regional symposium in Texas and determine the best varieties for growing in that section. It is perfectly obvious that the varieties that fit New England conditions might not be suited for Texas. It seems to me that is the best way to find out. It involves sending out ballots to about 200 or 300 people but you would be surprised at the amount of cooperation you will get.

Our Members Write . . .

A LETTER TO THE AVERAGE IRIS MEMBER

I must admit that I am getting a little fed up with all of this writing suggesting that the Bulletin print more material for the Average iris grower. And apparently the general concept of these writers is that the average member is a rank amateur or beginner, and that we should bring down the level of the material published onto the plane that meets their requirements for fundamental knowledge.

I am aware of the fact that due to the recent aggressive program for increased membership in the AIS, we probably have more of the so-called average gardener type member than ever before. And it is logical for these members to feel that the material offered in the Bulletins should be couched in terms and matter within the range of their understanding. I venture to state that this procedure would be entirely incompatible with the aims and purposes of the Society.

This method of reasoning would place us in the category of gardening magazines, radio programs, and such popular avenues of general basic cultural knowledge which is contrary to the interest and purposes of a highly specialized organization such as our Society. It is more advisable to lift the knowledge of the average member to a higher plane than to bring down the level of our publications to meet the member on a lower plane. All of this desired fundamental knowledge is readily available in past Bulletins, in magazines and in books. To have a perpetual duplication of this material to meet every new group of members would soon spell the doom of our organization.

There seems to be frequent criticism because of lack of comment on the older varieties. There was plenty of

comment on these varieties when they were news, and that comment is still available by purchasing the back number of the Bulletin at 50 cents per copy. The Bulletin is concerned with today's news, not a repetition of past events. However, there is no modicum of comment and appraisal on the outstanding older varieties even now, as there are frequent articles specializing on this subject.

The iris society as a specialized organization must concern itself with the latest and important advances in this field, and that comprises technical knowledge, genetical study, research, new varieties and trends in breeding, historical data, registrations, awards, Symposiums, varietal comments, biography and yes, even reports of meetings and personages of note.

Yes, Mr. Average Member, I will advise for your own benefit and future satisfaction, that you attempt to climb to the higher level, rather than propose that our Editor meet you on a common level, and disrupt the steady progress that has been achieved over many years of service from our Society.—WALTER WELCH, Middlebury, Indiana.

JUST CRITICISM, OR JUST CRITICISM?

I was sorry I missed getting my letter in on the reasons we lose new members. We lost quite a number out of our Round Robin and although we tried every means to talk them into renewing they still dropped out. I think everyone used this excuse—that the Bulletin was for the big gardeners and the articles too far above their reading. Also that there were not enough articles on the everyday iris and too much on new varieties and seedlings. To me this is not a just criticism, for I enjoy the Bulletins from cover to cover. I do wade

through many articles above my understanding but it increases my knowledge some. I especially like the varietal comments and try to see as many of the new ones each year as possible. I grow only about 150 varieties but ever strive to reach the "100 Best." I think we have a good workable, efficient organization . . . —MRS. J. H. SALLEY, Box 72, Liberal, Kansas.

BULLETINS WANTED

Mr. C. H. Caldwell of 55 Warren Place, Montclair, New Jersey has lost his copies of Bulletins Nos. 93, 94, 96. If any of our readers has an extra copy of one or all three of these please contact Mr. Caldwell.

CHEAP AT THE PRICE—

I used to think introductions were too high in price but after I waited three years for bloom myself and then had just ordinary flowers, I have learned that anyone producing a beautiful flower has earned what the trade will allow. I know the average gardener can only admire what they may be able to buy five years hence, so it seems reasonable to have slide collections showing really excellent varieties that are within purchasing power.—MRS. F. E. SHAW, 18 Cushing Street, Medford, Mass.

TOO TALL FOR ZUA?

Mrs. H. F. Black of New York asked to have a crinkled light blue or nearly white iris identified and in January Mrs. Taylor of Wyoming suggested it to be Zua. I am wondering if it actually is Zua; I have grown Zua for many years and here in both eastern Washington and in Seattle it has never come near to thirty inches. In fact it has been close to 12 inches in both situations and has always seemed sterile. At any rate, Salina Flower Farms of Salina, Kansas offer it and its black counterpart Elizabeth Huntington. Mr. Carl Starker of Jennings Lodge, Oregon offers Zua but not Elizabeth, as does Walter Marx of Boring, Oregon. My Zua besides being shorter of stature was never any dif-

ferent in the foliage from any other intermediate. My advice to you, Mrs. Black, is to try to secure a rhizome of the plant on which you saw the original blossom in addition to these other two and compare them. Perhaps your iris is a heretofore unknown chance seedling which may prove fertile, who knows? —B. L. DAVIDSON, 1638 35th Avenue, Seattle 22, Washington.

ALBINO MISSOURIENSIS?

Where may I obtain a white Iris missouriensis? I once saw an alpine list from Colorado which flatly stated that this was a white species and Mrs. G. A. Krause of Oregon (Please, couldn't we have addresses of our contributors in this one column?) (Editor's note: Yes, this issue) stated that in inland southern Oregon she had selected a white clone. I selected a sport from the edge of a large clump once but lost it. This is the native iris of Southeastern Washington where great clumps of it fill the meadows in May with red-violet and gold marked white flowers; but the general color is far from white. Since it does so well there and I have a particular fondness for white flowers I'd like to establish it. Seems I once heard of an albino pseudacorus, too. Has anyone a hint of information?—B. L. DAVIDSON, 1638 35th Ave., Seattle 22, Wash.

SEED EXCHANGE—

With this letter is enclosed my check for a 1952 membership. I have received few benefits for my membership (new) for 1951 except the four Bulletins, but can say that they are, to me, an adequate return. There is at present no local iris society, and to my knowledge only a couple of other members. Perhaps something may soon develop?

I am a collector of species iris in addition to the bearded group. In an attempt to obtain an extensive planting in a brief time, I have planted seeds of many varieties. Some have germinated and perhaps may bloom this season, others are still in the soil. I wish to find

others who are similarly interested, so that exchanges of excess material can be made. I have on hand, at the present, 10 packages of seeds of *I. missouriensis* collected locally; 8 packages of *I. pseudacorus*, collected locally; 4 packages of *I. tenax* collected near Salem, Oregon in the Chehalem Mountains and sent by Mr. Howard Magness; 1 package of *I. innominata*, from Dr. Matthew Riddle's Garden in Portland; 3 packets of mixed seeds of *I. kaempferi* from Mr. Manley of Cleveland, Ohio. There are also 2 or 3 each of *I. forrestii*, *Chrysofor*, *prismatica*, *Sambucina* and *Graminea*. These were purchased from various seedsmen who supplied more of each than I had space for in my rows. I would be pleased to accept exchanges of seeds or plants, but seeds should be planted by February in order to get any germination this coming season. Perhaps by the medium of this letter a start can be made toward a national rare or unusual iris species exchange club. Please direct correspondence or letters to my address given below.—DANIEL M. LYONS, W. 2517 Courtland, Spokane 13, Washington.

IRIS "CLITO" WANTED

Can you advise where the iris "Clito" can be obtained? I wrote Iris Test Gardens and Mr. Maxwell writes he overlooked it when planting and as it will require three years to re-establish, it is out for good. As his was the only catalog we have listing this iris, it may be necessary to look to some garden which has it.—FRED DAVIDSON, 423 Webster Street, Traverse City, Mich.

JUDGES BLINDSPOT!

The iris judges just don't seem to travel through this territory. I suppose it is because our section has been a little backward. This past season, Paul Dennis visited here and commended my Dixie Dream. But Mr. Dennis is the only iris judge who has visited me during the 15 years I have been hybridizing. (Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Maples have been visiting here since they ceased to be judges. Their advice and interest being quite helpful.)

I hope to get to meet some of you good Bulletin folks at St. Louis. You can be assured that a visit to the Shaw Gardens, Missouri Botanical Gardens, is worth a trip across the continent.—GEORGE N. REES, Route 1, Nixa, Missouri.

COLORED COVERS?

First, I want to tell you how much better the write up of the registrations was the last time. You know at once what the color of each one is. I do wish every grower would be urged to tell the parentage of each iris they register but I realize that sometimes they do not know.

Now my Brickbat—why can't we have colored paper backs on our Bulletins? Those nice clean white ones look very nice the first time they are read but mine are re-read many times at home and also loaned out so they have "gray" covers after awhile and not a nice gray. I know colored paper is more expensive but I, for one, could do with somewhat less expensive inside paper if we could have say soft green covers like iris leaves or brown.—MRS. W. R. HUBBARD, Rochester, Wash.

SPECIES NOTES FROM GRENADA—

As for *I. Stolonifera* and *Korolkowi*, I've grown both of them for several years, both the species and the variations. I do not feel though that I've had enough experience to write about them more than just give an account of how they behaved in my garden.

If you remember, the creek which runs by the side and back of our little house out on the farm forms a high bluff right back of the house. Of course, the drainage is pretty perfect so that is the position I selected for my regalias, oncos and those queer bulbous species I like so much. They have done marvelously well as our hot dry summers are much to their liking and my original stock has bloomed each year since planting with the exception of this past spring. However, the reason for their failure then was very evident for they were too far advanced when we had

that horrible late freeze. Mine have even set seed but I was too impatient to allow them time to become sufficiently ripe before I pulled them and planted them so only a very few germinated.

Digressing from the subject my Vartani Alba and Bakeriana plants always bloom between Christmas and the first of the year and maybe I don't appreciate flowers during that period. If a gardener wants a real reward and lots of satisfaction, I'd suggest that they purchase a half dozen, or a dozen, of these lesser known iris. They are definitely not expensive and I've found them as easy as zinnias—much easier than delphiniums and much longer lasting.—MRS. T. B. REVELL, JR., 334 Third Street, Grenada, Miss.

GRANITE CHIPS—

Living in a cold wet district, and gardening on heavy soil, I set the roots in the ground, and surrounded the rhizomes in small granite chippings.

They all did well, the chippings being nearly black, picked up all the heat from our limited amount of sunshine and the surface drainage was perfect.

In this climate, sand, unless it was very coarse would pack tightly, and still hold too much water on the surface.

My main interest is in species, especially California native species hybrids. I really moved to this new garden to get space to grow more.—ALAN FISK, Eng.

TALL BEARDED FAN—

I like the Bulletin and for the most part I enjoy everything in them, but my main interest is tall bearded iris. But if the other fellow wants information on dwarf, beardless and other kinds of iris that's okay by me, just so long as there is enough in the Bulletins about tall bearded.—MRS. OTHELIA SCOVILLE, 560 North 21st Street, San Jose 12, California.

TRIAL AND ERROR—

I have tried to write this with the thought of a novice iris grower—growing up along with both his collection of Bulletins and his iris.

It is only natural, when you have com-

pleted three or four garden seasons in which you have grown and cultivated many types of vegetables and flowers, to decide that specialization in one variety will be your next step. The reasoning that brings you to this conclusion is that you have learned quite a few things about the growing of plants, and while you unhappily admit to yourself that much of this knowledge was hit and miss—trial and error, it is much easier to forget the errors and remember only the highlights of your gardening years.

It is when the catalogs of your new growing specialty arrive that you realize that you know very little of iris and iris varieties. You join the American Iris Society and your first Bulletin arrives; but this, too, is confusing to you, not because it lacks information or lack of interest in its subject content, but because of its newness. The realization hits you that a great deal of the growing and selecting of iris varieties for your garden will be a hit and miss, trial and error proposition. You hope that by a period of trial, succeeding Bulletins will help you to avoid, a little, those hits and errors you have unconsciously forgotten.

You proceed with your project determined to succeed and your first display of iris (due to personal taste and personal pocketbook) contains the usual beginner's collection. Many of these will all appear quite lovely the first season. During this same season you will join an iris group and visit the local display gardens with people who share a mutual interest in the same subject as yourself. It will be here, among this self-same interested group that you will learn the answers to many questions that have puzzled you; what varieties do best in your vicinity, did John Jones have the same trouble with this or that variety, etc.?

In the following years many of that original collection of iris will be discarded from your garden for one reason or another, and replaced doublefold by others. You will come to realize that as

each Bulletin comes and is eagerly read, as each gardening season comes, as each new variety of iris is planted, that this one might not be what you are looking for, but it may be what someone else is looking for. It is only in this respect that the Bulletins, the Iris Society and the many iris varieties serve the purpose for which they were originally intended. That intent was to make someone, somewhere a little wiser in the ways of the iris family.

In this respect the iris Expert and the Novice are on even terms.—MRS. JOSEPH GATTY, 225 Griffith Street, Jersey City 7, N.J.

SPEAK UP—

I wonder if it would be possible to get a list of iris lovers who would be willing to guest seedlings and who would give in return a fair and impartial report on the seedlings sent. Having never introduced an iris but having 600 named varieties of which many never should have been introduced, I would like very much to have opinions other than my own.—JOSEPH M. BOTTS, 933 Wheeler street, Woodstock, Ill.

REGIONAL MEETINGS, TEST GARDENS—

Several years ago my friend and high school classmate, Kenneth Smith, said that if I would become an AIS member it would prove to be the best investment I ever made. It has. Any criticisms made are not to be taken as condemnation, but rather as humble efforts to still further improve.

For a number of years I was a member of the National Shade Tree Conference. This organization holds annual conventions lasting two or three days, at which all sorts of tree experts and commercial supply houses demonstrate their wares. Once in a decade or so the convention site is near enough to my home for me to attend. Meanwhile the club bulletins were the only benefits. This year I dropped out in favor of joining the newly formed N.Y. State Arborists' Association. Its conventions

will be at the State College at Ithaca, N.Y.

The above is mentioned to bring to your mind a weakness of the AIS which was alleviated somewhat by the creation of loosely organized regional groups. Still more decentralization is needed.

I am a charter member of the Men's Garden Club of Staten Island. As its second president the advantages of belonging to the Men's Garden Clubs of America became evident. We affiliated. There was still an unfilled need, however. The M.G.C.A. has the same weakness as the National Shade Tree Conference: most members cannot attend its conventions. Therefore our local club got together with nine other local clubs within commuting distance of New York, and organized the "Metropolitan New York Section—Men's Garden Clubs of America." The area covered corresponds roughly to that of Region 19 of the AIS. Enthusiasm runs high, for now we can get together as often as we wish and see our fellow hobbyists personally without long journeys or great expense.

The problem of getting the iris judges off the beaten way should not prove "beyond anything the AIS can do." Judges are human beings. So are their hosts and hostesses. They travel where fancy dictates when time and pocket money will permit. These are mountainous obstacles to the evaluation of worthwhile plants created in unattractive surroundings.

Though we cannot move the mountains, we can move the seedlings to approved centrally located testing gardens where judges could see them without much travel. Producers might even be willing to pay a nominal sum for maintenance to maturity.

Flower shows and the certificates won at them will, in my opinion never take the place of garden rating. Good plants cannot be selected by single stalks in jars.

When small breeders in unpretentious places feel that their productions have a chance of fair competition with the offspring of mansion flora they will

keep growing and having fun. They will not just fade away. Each state college of agriculture has land for demonstration purposes. Dr. L. F. Randolph has an ideal set-up at N.Y. State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. With suitable rules and regulations this would be an ideal iris test garden for Region 2. For Region 19 the State College at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. would serve well as an official testing garden. A similar college at Amherst, Mass. would serve New England's Region 1 well.

If the high officials of the AIS, the M.G.C.A., and the National Council of State Garden Clubs get together and put pressure behind boosting such testing gardens, they could far surpass anything private individuals could do, and judges would willingly flock to them. Being a civil service employee I know what the reaction is likely to be when public demand is unmistakable. After all, aren't these colleges there to serve the public? . . . —EDWIN RUNDLETT, No. 1 Fairview Avenue, Staten Island 14, New York.

COLOR GROUPING vs. COLOR CLASSIFICATION*

I wish to advocate the use of Schreiner's "Color Grouping" in lieu of Color Classification. This is set forth on pages 44 and 45 of Schreiner's 1951 catalog. In this grouping there are forty groups describing 357 iris varieties.

I have given each of these groups a consecutive number from 1 to 40 inclusive and that particular group number is the simplest Color symbol that can be used. In each report by the Registrar the following table would be reproduced. Then each iris would carry its proper number.

<i>Bear's Symbols</i>	<i>Schreiner's Color Groups</i>	<i>Examples Tall Bearded & Species</i>	
1. Pure White		Priscilla TB	1
2. White—Yellow throats		Gudrun	2
3. White—blue tinted		Snow Flurry	3
4. Blue Plicatas	Blue Shimmer		4
5. Pink Plicatas	Confetti		5

<i>Bear's Symbols</i>	<i>Schreiner's Color Groups</i>	<i>Examples Tall Bearded & Species</i>	
6. Rose & Brown Plicatas		Tiffany	6
7. Amoenas		Wabash	7
8. Palest Blues	Helen McGregor		8
9. Light Blues	Great Lakes		9
10. Medium Blues	Blue Rhythm		10
11. Violet Selfs	Nightfall		11
12. Sharp Violet bicolors	Amigo		12
13. Black Violets	Sable		13
14. Seashell Flamingo Pinks	Cherie		14
15. Orchid pinks	Chantilly		15
16. Lilac pinks	Frieda Mohr		16
17. Pink—Blended Buff	Pathfinder		17
18. Pink—Blended Salmon	Daybreak		18
19. Rose tones	Mulberry Rose		19
20. Rose Blended Salmon		Three Oaks	20
21. Red Orange & Copper tints		Radiant	21
22. Red Brown influence		Solid Mahogany	22
23. Red Rose tones	Red Gleam		23
24. Red Crimson tones	Ranger		24
25. Red Bicolor	Variegatas Gypsy		25
26. Yellow Buff blends	Chamois		26
27. Rose blended Copper	Matula		27
28. Light Tan blends		Cascade Splendor	28
29. Copper Bronze	Arab Chief		29
30. Henna	Bryce Canyon		30
31. Mauve Lilac	Violet Symphony		31
32. True Purple	Master Charles		32
33. Purple blended Brown		Grand Canyon	33
34. Lemon Yellows	Elsa Sass		34
35. Light Yellow	Golden Lustre		35
36. Medium yellow	Golden Majesty		36
37. Rich Gold Yellow	Ola Kala		37
38. Orange toned	Rocket		38
39. Cream	Amandine		39
40. Yellow Plicatas	Tiffanja		40

It is suggested that the designation T. B. be deleted on all tall bearded irises and only print symbols of species and hybrids of species of other than tall bearded irises.—CHARLES ULYSSES BEAR, Caspian Lake, Greensboro, Vt.

* Condensed by the Editor.

OFFICIAL LIST OF ACCREDITED JUDGES

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY — 1952

Region 1

MAINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, VERMONT, MASSACHUSSETS, RHODE ISLAND, CONNECTICUT

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Charles U. Bear, Caspian Lake, Greensboro, Vermont
Dr. C. P. Brown, Barre, Mass.
Stedman Buttrick, 15 State St., Boston, Mass.
Mrs. P. E. Corey, 707 Pearl St., Reading, Mass.
Dr. Howard F. Dunham, River Ridge, Hanover, N.H.
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Earl Weidner, 759 Salem St., Malden, Mass.
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Region 2

NORTHERN NEW YORK

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Mrs. A. W. Bender, Lewiston Rd., Batavia, N.Y.
E. L. Bisdee, 20 Grove St., Baldwinsville, N.Y.
Lowell G. Harder, 210 Marlborough Rd., Rochester, N.Y.
Steve Janicki, Port Crane, N.Y.
J. L. Lewis, 231 Broad St., Salamanca, N.Y.
Dr. L. F. Randolph, College of Agriculture, Ithaca, N.Y.
James C. Stevens, Greenville, N.Y.
John Swantak, So. Kortright, N.Y.
Mrs. Hubert Walker, 80 Carrollton Ave., Elmira, N.Y.
Mrs. C. M. Zirbel, Lewis St., Dryden, N.Y.

* *Honorary Judge.*

Region 3

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R.V.P., John C. Lyster, 120 W. Providence Rd., Clifton Heights, Penn.
J. Donovan Bolger, 1330 Markley St., Norristown, Penn.
Mrs. Wm. E. Chambers, 282 Forrest Rd., Merion, Pa.
John Dolman, Jr., 304 Vassar Ave., Swarthmore, Penn.
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*Mrs. J. Edgar Hires, Rehobeth, Strafford, Penn.
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Mrs. Gustav E. Landt, Curren Terrace, 1507 Boyer Blvd., Norristown, Pa.
Edwin L. Palmer, Primos, Penn.
Mrs. R. Moore Price, New Hope, Penn.
Dr. George M. Reed, 25 South Linwood Ave., Pittsburgh 5, Penn.
Charles W. Voris, 251 Broadway, Milton, Penn.
Mrs. Wallace J. White, 401 Fifth Ave., Juanita, Altoona, Penn.
*John C. Wister, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Penn.

Region 4

MARYLAND, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA

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Robert E. Allen, Gaymont, Aurora, West Virginia
Mrs. Marie Bozievich, 6710 Hillmead Rd., Bethesda 14, Md.
Mrs. F. Allen Brown, Western Hills St., Route No. 4, Roanoke, Va.
Mrs. S. A. Carpenter, The Elms, Orange, Va.
Mrs. Maslin Davis, 606 Twelfth St., S.W., Roanoke, Va.
Mrs. William Elwang, 26 Westlock Lane, Richmond, Va.
*J. P. Fishburn, Box 2531, Roanoke, Va.
*Chas. E. F. Gersdorff, 1825 N. Capitol St., Washington, D.C.
Mrs. C. A. Herbert, 2132 Laburnum Ave., Raleigh Ct., Roanoke, Va.
Edward G. King, 309 N. Irving St., Arlington, Va.
Arthur S. Mason, 3935 Sixth St., S., Arlington, Va.
L. H. Odell, 6110 Ridge Dr., Washington 16, D.C.
Edward E. Odom, 3131 N. Vermont St., Arlington, Va.
Mrs. Dorsey S. Overstreet, 213 Meadow Street, Vinton, Va.
Mrs. Charles Roberts, 226 Forrest Ave., Norfolk 8, Va.
Mrs. Geo. C. Steedman, 2512 Oregon Avenue, Roanoke 15, Va.
Howard R. Watkins, 309 Cumberland Ave., Chevy Chase, Md.

Region 5

NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA, GEORGIA, FLORIDA

R.V.P., Mrs. Isabelle Bowen Henderson, 213 Oberlin Rd., Raleigh, N.C.
Lewis H. Beck, Griffin, Georgia
Mrs. C. E. Biggerstaff, 1195 Brentwood Ave., Macon, Georgia
*Mrs. L. J. Blake, 861 Glendalyn Ave., Spartanburg, S.C.
*Gabriel Cannon, Otis Blvd., Spartanburg, S.C.
Mrs. Jack Cates, 561 Marjory Place, Macon, Ga.
F. W. Childs, Jenkinsburg, Georgia
Mrs. F. W. Childs, Jenkinsburg, Georgia
H. F. Chreitzberg, 462 Perroneau St., Spartanburg, S.C.
Mrs. M. L. Church, 1626 Queens Road West, Charlotte, N.C.
Mrs. W. P. Hill, 499 West Peachtree St., Atlanta, Georgia
Harvey Hobson, Box 817, Emory University, Georgia

* *Honorary Judge*

Miss Frances C. Hodgin, 335 Asheboro St., Greensboro, N.C.
Miss May Hudson, 1474 Peachtree St., Atlanta, Georgia
Mrs. S. A. Oscar, 1311 East Morehead, Charlotte, N.C.
E. Fay Pearce, 339 Beverly Rd., N.E., Atlanta, Georgia
R. W. Shoffner, 3101 Darien Drive, Raleigh, N.C.
Mrs. William T. Wood, 3875 Overlook Ave., Macon, Georgia
W. T. Wood, 240 Second St., Macon, Georgia
Robert B. Wynne, 1411 Jackson St., Raleigh, N.C.

Region 6

MICHIGAN, INDIANA AND OHIO

R.V.P., Earl E. Evans, R.R. No. 1, Fort Wayne 8, Indiana

MICHIGAN

J. C. Ackerman, State Ch., 1526 Drexel Road, Lansing 15
Roy V. Ashley, 168 Grand Blvd., Battle Creek
J. Nelson Brown, 26063 Dundee Rd., Huntington Woods
Mrs. Charles W. Burton, 19440 Afton Rd., Palmer Woods, Detroit 3
Mrs. L. D. Englerth, 4652 S. Division Ave., Grand Rapids
Earl A. Fairman, 432 Lafayette St., Flint 3
Dr. Frank B. Galyon, University Hospital, Ann Arbor
Charles H. Hall, 16855 Pinehurst Ave., Detroit 21
Charles E. Morgan, 2106 Missouri Ave., Flint 6
M. Leo O'Conner, 16126 Griggs Ave., Detroit 21
Mrs. Myra D. Palmer, R.R. No. 1, Constantine
Mrs. George D. Robinson, 167 E. Hamilton Lane, Battle Creek
J. L. Roscrance, 14997 Bringard Dr., Detroit 5
Don B. Savery, 8630 Chilson Rd., Brighton
A. W. Steward, 9386 Littlefield, Detroit 28
Franklin S. Sullivan, 31805 Bond Blvd., Farmington

OHIO

Donald G. Waters, State Ch., 303 Clinton St., Elmore
Miss Olive Bowman, 201 S. Perry St., Woodville
Edward H. Bretschneider, 1260 Cambridge Blvd., Columbus 12
Miss Grace Innis, 1977 Cleveland Ave., Columbus 6
Thomas R. Manley, R. R. No. 3, Chagrin Falls
Mrs. C. W. Naas, R. R. No. 4, Celina
Harry R. O'Brien, West Wilson Bridge Rd., Worthington
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Mrs. Paul R. Stephan, 2104 Yorkshire Rd., Columbus 8
Dr. D. Paul Wickersham, P. O. Box 12, Urbana
Ward B. Williams, 419 Harrison Ave., Greenville

INDIANA

Walter Welch, State Ch., Middlebury
Walter E. Buss, Edenwold Gardens, Vincennes
Paul H. Cook, Bluffton
Earl E. Evans, R. R. No. 1, Fort Wayne 8
Wilmer B. Flory, 1533 Meadlawn Ave., Logansport
Forrest V. McCord, 2111 Reserve St., Muncie
Mrs. Frances C. Horton, 528 Bristol St., Elkhart
E. Greig Lapham, 1003 Strong Ave., Elkhart
Miss Mary Williamson, Bluffton
George G. Zink, 8308 Kraay Ave., Munster

* *Honorary Judge*

Region 7

KENTUCKY, TENNESSEE, ALABAMA, MISSISSIPPI

R.V.P., Mrs. T. B. Revell, Jr., 334 Third St., Grenada, Mississippi
Mrs. J. K. Avent, Grenada, Mississippi
R. N. Banks, Hollywood, Mississippi
Edgar S. Beck, 1105 W. Mississippi Ave., Chattanooga, Tennessee
Walter L. Brown, 912 Gilmore Ave., Nashville, Tennessee
Sam Y. Caldwell, Holt Road, Nashville, Tennessee
Carl Carpenter, 115 E. 119th St., Owensboro, Kentucky
Mrs. Raymond Clark, 372 Grandview, Memphis, Tennessee
*C. P. Connell, Rt. 2, Campbell Ln., Goodlettsville, Tennessee
Miss Annie A. Cooper, 301 Main St., Oxford, Alabama
Mrs. Earl Dodson, Box 13, Lydon, Kentucky
Geddes Douglas, Franklin Road, Brentwood, Tennessee
Mrs. Geddes Douglas, Brentwood, Tennessee
Mrs. E. R. Fox, 1663 Glenview Ave., Memphis, Tennessee
Mrs. Morgan Ketchum, 178 S. McLean Blvd., Memphis, Tennessee
John E. Pierce, 2583 Jackson Ave., Memphis, Tennessee
Mrs. Samuel P. Rawlings, 1244 Park St., Bowling Green, Kentucky
Mrs. Leo F. Reynolds, 4284 Auburn Rd., Memphis 16, Tennessee
John B. Robinson, 4516 Colorado Ave., Nashville, Tennessee
Mrs. Reuben Sawyer, Coahoma, Mississippi
Miss Alta Shelton, 304 W. Tuscaloosa St., Florence, Alabama
Mrs. Elbert Ward, Jr., 741 Chickasaw Ave., Jackson, Miss.
Mrs. Nolan F. West, Sardis, Mississippi
William H. Wicker, 1101 S. 22nd St., Knoxville, Tennessee
J. E. Wills, National Bldg., Nashville, Tennessee

Region 8

WISCONSIN, MINNESOTA

R.V.P., Mrs. William Peterson, 3731 Oliver St., So. Minneapolis, Minnesota
A. G. Blodgett, 1008 E. Broadway, Waukesha, Wisconsin
Mrs. Edythe Burns, 1706 Queen Ave., North, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Frank E. Cross, Savage, Minnesota
*Leo J. Egelberg, 142 S. 6th St., La Crosse, Wisconsin
Rev. Paul E. Folkers, 216 East Main St., Owatonna, Minnesota
Granville B. Gable, 2543 Thirty-eighth Ave., Minneapolis 6, Minnesota
Joseph Patzke, 1800 Iglehart Ave., St. Paul, Minnesota
Mrs. Robert M. Reinhardt, R.D. 4, Box 636, Waukesha, Wisconsin
Mrs. W. F. Roecker, 3319 No. 14th St., Milwaukee 6, Wisconsin
Dr. Carl M. Schwendener, 1722 No. 48th St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Milo Snyder, 2614 E. Newton Ave., Shorewood 11, Wisconsin

Region 9

ILLINOIS

R.V.P., Gerald J. Donahue, 134 S. Cuyler Ave., Oak Park, Ill.
Ray J. Belsley, 2417 Seventh Ave., Peoria 5, Ill.
Fred E. Bond, 200 S. 17th Ave., Maywood, Ill.
Dr. C. E. Branch, Piper City, Ill.
W. D. Button, 14501 St. Louis Ave., Midlothian, Ill.
Brother Charles, S.V.D., Mission Gardens, Techny, Ill.

* *Honary Judge*

Elmer A. Claar, 617 Thornwood Lane, Northfield, Ill.
 Dr. E. L. Clark, 619 Emerson St., Evanston, Ill.
 Geo. J. Cowan, 1446 N. Touhy Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 Mrs. Fred H. Clutton, 589 Kimball Rd., Highland Park, Ill.
 Dr. Franklin Cook, 2747 Hurd Ave., Evanston, Ill.
 Miss Eva E. Faught, Carbondale, Ill.
 Orville W. Fay, 1522 Isabella St., Wilmette, Ill.
 Hubert E. Fischer, Meadow Gardens, Rt. 2, 63rd St., Hinsdale, Ill.
 Harry L. Gadau, 7879 Tripp Ave., Skokie, Ill.
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 Theodore R. Greer, Route 1, Box 13, Joy, Ill.
 Mrs. Lindsay Hahn, 2617 S. 11th St., Springfield, Ill.
 David F. Hall, 809 Central Ave., Wilmette, Ill.
 Mrs. Mildred Hazel Harrell, 1108 Liberty St., Aurora, Ill.
 E. L. Hodson, 470 Greenfield Ave., Glen Ellyn, Ill.
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 Granville S. Keith, 912 W. Springfield, Champaign, Ill.
 Mrs. John B. Moore, 520 N. Main St., Benton, Ill.
 Wm. G. Reiser, 1235 Glenview Rd., Glenview, Ill.
 Ralph M. Schroeder, Warrensburg, Ill.

Region 10 **ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA**

R.V.P., Mrs. Milton Trichel, 811 Kirby Place, Shreveport, La.
 Miss Marie Caillet, Box 365, S.L.L., Lafayette, La.
 Mrs. Sam Caldwell, 230 Ockley Drive, Shreveport, La.
 Frank E. Chowning, 2110 Country Club Lane, Little Rock, Ark.
 Mrs. Walter Colquitt, 487 Albany, Shreveport, La.
 Mrs. Ray J. Cornay, Box No. 424, Southwestern, Lafayette, La.
 Ed. Dickinson, 1555 Claiborne Ave., Shreveport, La.
 Miss Caroline Dormon, Saline, La.
 W. B. MacMillan, Abbeville, La.
 Mrs. W. R. Mathews, R. 2, Box 96, Shreveport, La.
 Ira S. Nelson, Southwestern La. Institute, Lafayette, La.
 J. G. Richard, 190 Sunset Blvd., Baton Rouge, La.
 Mrs. Alex. Smith, 212 Ockley Drive, Shreveport, La.
 Walter P. Vestal, 331 Goshen Ave., Park Hill, North Little Rock, Ark.

Region 11 **MONTANA, IDAHO, WYOMING**

R.V.P., Mrs. Ralph S. Nelson, 906 Foster Ave., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
 Mrs. Ed Conrad, Route 2, Buhl, Idaho
 Mrs. W. C. Fox, 238 Davis Ave., Nampa, Idaho
 Mrs. Alfred Kramer, Route 2, Buhl, Idaho
 Mrs. James Maher, 708 Tenth St., Nampa, Idaho
 H. N. Metcalf, Dept. of Horticulture, Montana State College, Bozeman, Montana
 Kenneth S. Moore, 1040 Thurmond, Sheridan, Wyoming
 Mrs. Estelle A. Ricketts, Route 3, Jerome, Idaho
 Mrs. Sidney W. Smith, Route 2, Twin Falls, Idaho
 Mrs. Thomas Speedy, 459 Elm St., Twin Falls, Idaho
 Mrs. Lowell A. Storm, Chugwater, Wyoming
 Mrs. Glen Suiter, Skyline Gardens, Route 1, Caldwell, Idaho
 *Mrs. Mary F. Tharp, 445 7th St., Payette, Idaho

* *Honorary Judge.*

Mrs. C. W. Vallette, Declo, Idaho
Mrs. Arthur N. Walker, Route 2, Kimberly, Idaho

Region 12

UTAH, ARIZONA, NEW MEXICO

R.V.P., M. D. Naylor, 1484 Yale Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah
Mrs. Margaret Y. Albright, 2101 East 45th South, Salt Lake City, Utah
Mrs. Almira F. Baird, 980 North 2nd East, Provo, Utah
Mrs. Ralph Carlston, 3632 So. 13th East, Salt Lake City, Utah
Stanley C. Clarke, 10 Los Arboles Road, Albuquerque, N.M.
Dr. Philip G. Corliss, Box 68, Somerton, Arizona
Mrs. Luzon Crosby, R.F.D. 2, Box 623, Orem, Utah
Mrs. Mary Muse Duncan, 3 Plaza Chamisal, Santa Fe, N.M.
Mrs. A. J. Fitzgerald, Box 203, Route 1, Magna, Utah
W. Foulger, 171 S. 3rd East, American Fork, Utah
Fisher Harris, 1422 Military Way, Salt Lake City, Utah
Mrs. Valentine Jacobson, 1525 East 39th St., South, Salt Lake City, Utah
Warren P. Kirk, Pleasant Grove, Utah
Carl Larsen, 2561 Elm Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah
A. W. Mackenzie, 2941 Santa Cruz Dr., Albuquerque, N.M.
Tell Muhlestein, 691 East 8th North, Provo, Utah
Raymond C. Solomon, 1789 Hubbard Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah
Miss Gertrude Songer, P. O. Box 2474, Bisbee, Arizona
Herman F. Thorup, 1195 Crystal Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah
M. D. Wallace, Box 203A, Route 3, Orem, Utah

Region 13

OREGON AND WASHINGTON

R.V.P., Mrs. Albert P. Haase, Vine St., Walla Walla, Washington
George W. Bushell, 835 N.E. 2nd Ave., Camas, Washington
Bill Chandler, Brookside Gardens, Walla Walla, Washington
Mrs. L. V. Carlson, Summerville, Oregon
R. M. Cooley, 810 North Water Street, Silverton, Oregon
Merle Daling, Waterville, Washington
Fred DeForest, Irisnoll, Route 1, Monroe, Oregon
Mrs. Rose Dightman, 3219 N. 33rd St., Tacoma, Washington
Mrs. F. B. Eylar, Route 2, Box 610, Renton, Washington
Mrs. Joseph Hunt, 129 Eldorado, Tacoma, Washington
Robert Innes, 1123 Fairview Avenue, Yakima, Washington
*Dr. R. E. Kleinsorge, Silverton, Oregon
Mrs. G. A. Krause, 229 High Street, Klamath Falls, Oregon
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Walter E. Marx, Route 2, Boring, Oregon
*Alexander Maxwell, Iris Test Gardens, Route 1, Yakima, Washington
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Gordon W. Plough, 12 South Delaware Street, Wenatchee, Washington
Dr. Matthew C. Riddle, 2557 S.W. Vista Ave., Portland, Oregon
*William Roan, Thorp, Washington
*Mrs. W. J. Schmelzer, 601 S. Division Street, Walla Walla, Washington
Bernard Schreiner, Route 2, Box 327, Salem, Oregon
Robert Schreiner, Route 2, Box 327, Salem, Oregon
Mrs. Jake L. Smith, Route 3, Waitsburg, Washington

* *Honorary Judge*

Mrs. M. V. Torgerson, 4217 Burke Ave., Seattle, Washington
Wilbur W. Weed, 680 Chestnut Drive, Eugene, Oregon
Mrs. Wallace Westenskow, Box 164, Imbler, Oregon

Region 14

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, NEVADA

R.V.P., Harold I. Johnson, 172 Austin Ave., Atherton, California
Dr. Stafford Jory, 1370 Euclid Ave., Berkeley 8, California
Mrs. O. W. Leach, Route 2, Box 365, Alvarado Ave., Los Altos, California
Mrs. Lila McCombs, Route 1, Box 124, Hughson, California
Mrs. A. E. Morrison, 2524 Marshal Way, Sacramento, California
E. P. Nelson, Box 2289, Rt. 2, Paradise, California
Robert F. Nourse, 312 S. Barnes St., Ukiah, California
Willard Pankost, 401 Forty-first St., Sacramento, California
Mrs. G. G. Pollock, 1341 45th St., Sacramento, California
Ralph B. Rogers, 31 Kemp Ave., San Anselmo, California
Mrs. A. L. Romer, Rt. 1, Box 101, Ukia, California
Carl Salbach, 657 Woodmont Ave., Berkeley 8, California
Mrs. A. H. Sanborn, Chico Horticultural Society, R.F.D., 4, Chico, California
Mrs. Lucille Trine, P. O. Box 325, Felton, California

Region 15

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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*Rev. E. H. Brenan, 15 Clifton Court, Redlands, California
Mrs. Laura Burbridge, 17231 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, California
Stewart H. Carse, 240 W. Broadway, San Diego, California
Ralph Conrad, 13542 Hart Street, Van Nuys, California
Clarke Cosgrove, 922 South Ninth St., Alhambra, California
Thomas Craig, Star Route, Box 315, Escondido, California
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Donald C. Cunningham, 5856 Somerset Drive, Los Angeles 8, California
Dr. H. L. Decker, 3880 Clayton Avenue, Los Angeles 27, California
Mrs. Barry Dibble, 120 E. Palm Avenue, Redlands, California
Dr. Richard Eckels, 453 Walnut Ave., Redlands, California
*R. W. Fielding, 144 South Euclid Avenue, San Gabriel, California
Mrs. Elsie Heimer, 4748 Columbus Avenue, Sherman Oaks, California
C. R. Hopson, 1867 E. Duarte Road, San Gabriel, California
Frederick Kennedy, 1304 West Juanita, San Dimas, California
C. W. Lovell, 311 Mesa Lane, Santa Barbara, California
Mrs. Mildred Lyon, 7041 Woodman Avenue, Van Nuys, California
Miss Elma Miess, 12982 Borden Avenue, San Fernando, California
C. S. Milliken, 970 New York Avenue, Altadena, California
Mrs. Melva Moon, 2538 Mesa School Lane, Santa Barbara, California
G. H. Murray, 109 Harding Court, Monrovia, California
*Eric Nies, 1423 Kingsley Drive, Hollywood 27, California
Mrs. Douglas Pattison, 304 Narcissus St., Coronado Del Mar, California
Robert Primer, Littlerock, California
Dr. A. H. Sturtevant, 1244 Arden Road, Pasadena, California
Mrs. Otto Stuetzel, 8239 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Canoga Park, California
*Carl C. Taylor, 1519 Tippecanoe Avenue, San Bernardino, California
Frank Seward Walker, 13903 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, California
Marion Walker, RFD No. 2, Box 328, Ventura, California
*Clarence G. White, 520 Sunset Drive, Redlands, California

* *Honorary Judge*

Region 16

CANADA

R.V.P., Mrs. Wm. McCann, 1 Queen St., N. Thorold, Ontario
Chas. Baucham, Sterling Towers, 372 Bay St., Toronto, Ontario
Mrs. Harry Bickle, 42 Glen Elm Ave., Toronto, Ontario
Miss M. S. Castle, Meadowvale, Ontario
Rev. W. T. Corcoran, 50 Well St., Stratford, Ontario
Wm. C. Fleming, 154 Sydenham St., London, Ontario
L. O. Hicks, 10611—112th St., Edmonton, Alberta
Leslie Laking, Box 399, Hamilton, Ontario
C. E. Little, Richmond Hill, Ontario
Wm. Miles, Surreyhurst Farm, R. R. No. 5, Ingersoll, Ontario
W. J. Moffatt, 170 Delaware Ave., Hamilton, Ontario
Dr. A. H. Rolph, The Elms, Scarlett Rd., Weston, Ontario
H. E. Seale, 38 Bellewood Ave., Ottawa, Ontario
R. M. White, R. R. No. 1, Summerland, British Columbia

Region 17

OKLAHOMA—TEXAS

R.V.P., Miss Willie Birge, 2408 Nueces St., Austin, Texas
George M. Allen, 1915 Magnolia Ave., San Antonio, Texas
Dr. Sidney Baird, 3549 Southwestern, Dallas 5, Texas
Mrs. Steve J. Barrett, 4301 Purdue St., Dallas, Texas
Z. A. Benson, 1509 22nd St., Wichita Falls, Texas
Dr. B. J. Berger, 3916 Stonebridge Drive, Dallas, Texas
S. A. Brewer, 1110 N.W., 31st St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Mrs. L. E. Brooks, Iowa Park, Texas
Mrs. P. A. Childers, Route 1, Temple, Texas
W. R. Cochran, 3500 Beverly Drive, Dallas 5, Texas
Mrs. H. B. Darcy, Rockmore Drive, Austin, Texas
Dr. Charles Decker, 508 Chautauqua Ave., Norman, Oklahoma
Miss Annie Giles, 2824 Manor Road, Austin, Texas
Mrs. J. E. Gill, 1616 12th St., Wichita Falls, Texas
Miss Eleanor Hill, 1633 East 22nd St., Tulsa, Oklahoma
Mrs. W. R. Jordan, 3225 Hardeman, Fort Worth, Texas
Mrs. Alfred McKnight, 2212 Pembroke, Fort Worth, Texas
Henry F. Murphy, 419 Monroe St., Stillwater, Oklahoma
Mrs. Russell M. Pryer, 1216 N.W. 33rd St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Mrs. S. W. Ray, 2271 Lipscomb, Fort Worth, Texas
F. E. Rice, 1351 Dewey Ave., Bartlesville, Oklahoma
Mrs. Guy Rogers, 1806 Grant St., Wichita Falls, Texas
Guy Rogers, First National Bank Bldg., Wichita Falls, Texas
J. Lee Rogers, Bison, Oklahoma
F. O. Rose, 3629 Fountain St., Amarillo, Texas
Mrs. W. K. Rose, 2340 Lipscomb, Fort Worth, Texas
Mrs. E. G. Sawyers, R. R. No. 9, Box 113, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Mrs. A. M. Tallman, 3312 Childress, Fort Worth, Texas
Mrs. C. W. Terry, 631 North Main St., Tulsa, Oklahoma
Harry Thomas, 1216 Glenwood Ave., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Mrs. Ray Thompson, 1813 Speedway, Wichita Falls, Texas
Mrs. Paul Updegraff, 324 Emelyn, Norman, Oklahoma
Mrs. W. E. Wallace, 408 North 7th St., Temple, Texas
Mrs. W. B. Wardlow, 1312 Elton Lane, Austin, Texas

Roy E. White, 3632 White Settlement Road, Fort Worth, Texas
Mrs. W. C. Wilkes, 2824 Manor Road, Austin, Texas
Mrs. Guy Y. Williams, 468 Elm Ave., Norman, Oklahoma
Mrs. Ruby Williams, Chillicothe, Texas
Mrs. J. E. Zenor, 2232 N.W. 28th St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Region 18
MISSOURI—KANSAS

R.V.P., W. F. Scott, Jr., No. 3 Sassafras Lane, Ferguson 21, Mo.
Ellsworth Appel, 77 Whitehall Ct., Brentwood 17, Mo.
Robert Armstrong, Neosho, Mo.
Orville Baker, 810 Litchfield Street, Wichita, Kan.
Prof. Frank H. Banyard, Route 2, Hutchinson, Kan.
*Joseph C. Becherer, 4809 Hamburg Street, St. Louis 23, Mo.
Clifford Benson, 1201 Verl Place, St. Louis, Mo.
Mrs. Bert Brickell, Flowerhill, Saffordville, Kan.
Roy Brizendine, 2214 Maryland, Topeka, Kan.
Miss Lily Buder, 3509 Brown Road, St. Louis 21, Missouri
Mrs. Walter Buxton, 817 So. Sappington Road, Webster Groves 19, Mo.
E. A. Byous, 2914 Francis St., St. Joseph, Mo.
*Mrs. Ella Callis, Route 5, St. Joseph, Mo.
Carson Clardy, 2624A East 10th St., Kansas City, Mo.
Dr. Lewis Clevenger, 824 E. Patterson Ave., Kirksville, Mo.
Mrs. Audrey B. Cottam, Route 2, Union, Mo.
Mrs. Earl Creech, 1510 Byers Ave., Joplin, Mo.
Mrs. Pearl Dafforn, Cunningham, Kan.
Dr. Lynval Davidson, 6000 High Drive, Kansas City, Mo.
Paul Dennis, Route 9, Box 890, Springfield, Mo.
Ted R. Elstrom, Route 1, Concordia, Kan.
Mrs. W. O. Fleck, 29 Silver Lane, Box 126, Route 1, Independence, Mo.
Mrs. W. A. Gates, 416 West College St., Aurora, Mo.
Rev. Charles I. Goldsmith, Baldwin, Kansas.
J. H. Grinter, 126 West Maple Ave., Independence, Mo.
Mrs. Ervin Gruben, 709 College Street, Scott City, Kansas
L. Buryl Harman, 1906 Moffett Avenue, Joplin, Mo.
C. Allen Harper, 7300 Brooklyn Avenue, Kansas City 5, Mo.
Mrs. C. R. Harry, Home, Kan.
Robert Hill, Lafontaine, Kan.
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